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**UPR WORKING GROUP - TENTH SESSION
(JAN 24 - FEB 4, 2011)**

UPR of RWANDA - INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

Jan 24, 2011; 1500-1800 hrs

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. President,

India welcomes the delegation of Rwanda led by _____ and thanks the delegation for its presentation and the national report.

Mr President,

2. As has been noted, Rwanda is still in a period of reconstruction but has, nevertheless, been able to make a remarkable recovery since the 1994 genocide. Politically, the country adopted a new Constitution in 2003 and has been commended for its efforts to reshape a new society that is inclusive. It has one of the highest rates of female participation in parliament. Economically, the country has enjoyed a high economic growth rate in the recent past and invested in human development. Public spending on health has doubled over the last few years. The Constitution provides for free and compulsory education and the Government is promoting a nine years basic education programme for children. A large number of children have also been reunited with their families over the last few years. In terms of human rights framework, the country has an A-status national human rights institution, the basis of a functional justice system, is party to most of the core international human rights

instruments and is cooperating with the African Peer Review Mechanism and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

Mr President,

3. We take note of several concerns that have been expressed by various treaty bodies from time to time, especially those relating to the need to accelerate the legal review process, endow the national human rights institution with greater resources, take measures to address trafficking, explicitly prohibit discrimination against women, recognise the existence of minorities and address impunity for the perpetrators of genocide. At the same time, we take cognisance of the constraints that have been highlighted in the national report, namely high population growth rate and limited resources and capacities. These are all important considerations as the country rebuilds itself and still faces considerable challenges to its peace and stability. We would, therefore, request the delegation to share its views on these concerns in the light of the constraints that it has mentioned. In particular, we would request the delegation to provide more information on food insecurity that is reported to be rather high in view of the population growth, internal displacement, deforestation and declining agricultural productivity.

Thank you, Mr President.
