

UPR WORKING GROUP - Twelfth SESSION

(3-14 October 2011)

UPR of the United Republic of Tanzania - INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

(03 October 2011)

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Madam President,

We thank Tanzania for its detailed national report and the candid account of the challenges that remain in its efforts to provide the enjoyment of human rights to its citizens.

02. We note with appreciation Tanzania's meeting the millennium development goal on universal primary education, five years ahead of the 2015 deadline for which it received a United Nations award. We echo the CRC's appreciation of Tanzania's long-standing generous approach of receiving refugees, more than 600,000, the largest number in Africa. It is noteworthy that in the last five years, the Government of Tanzania facilitated the resettlement of more than 13,743 refugees and in June 2010, granted citizenship to 162,156 refugees from Burundi and 1,423 refugees from Somalia.

03. We take special note of the progress made in women's participation in the Parliament, currently comprising 36% of its membership. However, we are equally cognizant of the remaining challenges with regard to empowerment of women, in particular, the concern expressed by CEDAW that the public service is male-dominated and that the majority of women

working in the public sector are in lower or middle cadre positions. Women and children continue to be subjected to gender-based violence, as acknowledged in the national report. We encourage Tanzania to continue to strengthen its efforts to enhance the role of women in its society by providing equal opportunities, and effectively implement the National Plan of Action on Violence against women which includes FGM.

04. We note the best practices highlighted in the report and would like the government of Tanzania to elaborate on the 'Property and Business Formalization Program' that it has initiated and the results achieved in this regard.

05. In conclusion, Madam President, we are encouraged to learn of the priorities set out by Tanzania for itself in its National Report, which is indicative of the Government's commitment to protect and promote human rights. The Government has sought the assistance of the international community in capacity-building in various areas including in enhancing human rights education, tackling gender-based violence, shelter for victims of human-trafficking and the war against trafficking of illicit drugs. We assure the Government of Tanzania of our unreserved support in their objective of improving the human rights situation in their country and we wish them well in their endeavours.

Thank you, Madam President.
