

21st session of the Human Rights Council

Adoption of Outcome of the Universal Periodic Review of India

(20 September 2012)

**Concluding Statement by Ambassador/Permanent Representative
of India**

Madam/Mr. President,

I wish to thank everyone for their presence and participation in the adoption of the outcome of the Universal Periodic Review of India. In particular, we thank the participants for their warm expressions of friendship and goodwill for India. We reciprocate these sentiments.

We are conscious of our human rights challenges, especially in their enforcement. We have persevered diligently to address these challenges. We remain open to advice and suggestions. In this regard, we have carefully noted the observations and suggestions made by participants during the course of our discussions today and will give them full consideration with an open mind.

Madam/Mr. President,

The fact that we may not have accepted a particular recommendation does not in any way mean that we do not recognize or value it. We have taken note of all recommendations. In fact, we have pledged to work assiduously on all issues which we highlighted in our second Universal Periodic Review. Further, non-acceptance of a recommendation also does not mean that we do not have adequate or necessary regulation or legislation in place to address those issues. In most cases, we have our own regulations in place, though we acknowledge scope for improvement.

We would also like to point out that on certain issues which require parliamentary and other consideration, while we may not accept the recommendation *per se*, we will continue to pursue the effective implementation of provisions already on our statutes.

Madam/Mr. President,

In conclusion, I would like to once again thank everyone for their participation in and contribution to the Universal Periodic Review of India. We have immensely benefited from this constructive engagement with the Council and consider it a positive experience. We are committed to follow-up on the recommendations emanating from this process in an inclusive manner.

I would particularly like to convey our appreciation for the *troika* members- representatives of Mauritius, Kuwait and Mexico. I would also like to thank the UPR team of the OHCHR for their excellent organisation of and support to this process.

We look forward to returning to the Council in the next cycle to report on the progress made in our pursuit of human rights.

Thank you.