

**UPR WORKING GROUP – SEVENTH SESSION
(MAY 3-14, 2010)**

UPR of KENYA – INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

May 6, 2010; 0900-1200 hrs

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. President,

India welcomes the delegation of Kenya led by Hon'ble Mutula Kilonzo, Minister for Justice, National Cohesion and Constitutional Affairs, and thanks the delegation for its National Report and presentation.

2. While acknowledging the challenges and constraints faced by Kenya in securing the human rights of its citizens, we are encouraged to learn of the notable progress made in the implementation of national priorities with regard to human rights. Following the post-election violence in 2008, the launch of the First medium-term Plan under the Kenya Vision 2030 marks a critical milestone as it is aimed towards national reconciliation and economic development. The Plan's importance and relevance is clear as it is the Government's primary document outlining the policies, reform measures and targeted projects and programmes with a direct impact on the realization of human rights.

3. The National Report points to several institutional and structural shortcomings despite a generation of constitutional reform efforts. We hope that the comprehensive review of the Constitution and the revamping of the Kenya Law Reform Commission to review all existing legislations shall go a long way in establishing a firm foundation for the promotion and protection of human rights. We also take positive note of the constitution of the Task Force in 2009, which is expected to anchor judicial and police reforms.

Mr. President,

4. Poverty alleviation remains a great challenge for the Government. In this regard, we take positive note of the various initiatives undertaken by the Government, including *inter-alia*, the Economic Stimulus Programme 2009, Employment Creation Programme 2009, and Universal Free Primary Education Scheme. We request the delegation of Kenya to inform us on measures taken by the National Council on Persons with Disabilities to increase the percentage of employment of persons with disabilities. We would also request for information on measures taken to ensure the financial autonomy of the National Commission on Human Rights.

5. Lastly, Mr. President, while we take positive note of the fact that Kenya is party to almost all core international human rights instruments, we would encourage Kenya to consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, to which it is a signatory.

Thank you, Mr. President.
