

UPR WORKING GROUP - THIRTEENTH SESSION

(21 May - 4 June 2012)

UPR of POLAND - INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

30 May 2012; 14:30- 1800 hrs

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. President,

India welcomes the delegation of Poland led by Her Excellency Ms. Grazyna Bernatowicz, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and thanks the delegation for the presentation of its National Report, which provides an overview of the current situation of human rights in the country and which includes new initiatives undertaken by Poland since its first UPR.

2. We commend Poland's achievements in education, including improved attendance in schools in general and access to education to Roma Children in particular. We, however, regret that the majority of children of illegal migrants are, de facto, excluded from education. We would recommend that Poland adopt measures to guarantee full access to education for all children in the country.

3. We have taken positive note of the setting up of the Council for Counteracting Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. We would encourage Poland to ensure that the draft Government Action Plan pays particular attention to vulnerable groups including migrants.

Mr. President,

4. There have been concerns raised with regard to the length of trials and pre-trial detentions, as also issues of access to a lawyer by a person under detention, particularly, those that are not in a position to pay for legal services. We would recommend that Poland consider a maximum, non-extendable term of pre-trial detention, and use alternative measures to pre-trial detentions and take appropriate measures to deal with concerns on ensuring access to legal services, particularly for those under detention.

5. We wish Poland well in its endeavor to further promote and protect human rights.

Thank you, Mr. President.
