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UPR WORKING GROUP – THIRTEENTH SESSION

(21 May – 4 June 2012)

UPR of Netherlands – INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

31 May 2012; 0900-1230 hrs

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Madam President,

India welcomes the delegation of the Netherlands led by and thanks the delegation for the National Report and its presentation today.

2. We take note of the efforts made by the Netherlands in implementing the recommendations accepted at the time of their last UPR including its accession to major international human rights treaties. We welcome the establishment of a National Human Rights Institution that will come into effect this year and encourage the Netherlands to provide it with sufficient financial support and ensure its independence.

3. We recognize the liberal and multi-cultural views that Netherlands has nurtured. However, given the reports of rising incidence of racial discrimination and xenophobia particularly in the context of the euro-zone crisis, we would encourage the Dutch Government to take concrete measures to combat discrimination including discrimination by the Government such as ethnic profiling. We reiterate our previous recommendation that the Netherlands continues to engage in a national dialogue with a view to promoting respect for diversity and tolerance in line with its obligation under the ICCPR.

4. We acknowledge the efforts of the Dutch government to address issues of violence against women including the policies and projects outlined in the interim report of the implementation of the recommendations of their 1st UPR. We recommend that these measures are fully implemented and that the Netherlands also consider implementing the recommendations of the special Rapporteur on violence against women and CEDAW.

5. Finally, we wish to express our appreciation for The Netherlands' commitment to human rights and recognize their contribution to the promotion and protection of Human Rights as the premier donor state to the OHCHR funds. We wish them all success in their endeavour to improve further the situation of human rights in their country.

Thank you, Madam President.
