

**Statement
by
Cambodia at the 16th Universal Periodic Review of the Working Group of the
HRC for Colombia (Palais des Nations, 23 April 2013)**

Mr. President,

1. Cambodia welcomes the High-Level Delegation of the Republic of Colombia led by HE Mr. Angelino Garzon, Vice President of the Republic at this 16th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group of the Human Rights Council. We wish to extend our congratulation to the Delegation for the presentation of the national report at this Session.
2. Cambodia is pleased to take note of the steady progress and efforts made by the Government of Colombia, since the first UPR Cycle, to promote and protect human rights through the implementation of its relevant reform programs, strategy and policies, including in particular, the National Development Plan for 2010-2014.
3. We also welcome the establishment of the National Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law System (Decree 4100/2011), and the launch of the significant legislative and public policy initiatives which would contribute to the strengthening of capacity and effective implementation of relevant areas of human rights.
4. We welcome steps taken by the Government to address the challenges associated with the proportion of people living in poverty and to achieve a more equitable society by improving capacities and opportunities for access to various social services. We therefore recommend that the country continue to further address the social inequality that remains one of the challenges of human rights in the country.
5. Cambodia takes note of the efforts made by the Government of Colombia to combat trafficking in person under its past National Strategy (2007–2012). We therefore recommend the country to continue its work in this area along with particular attention given to children and disadvantaged groups, as envisaged in its future plan of National Strategy (2013-1018) on trafficking prevention in the efforts to further promote and protect human rights of its people.

Thank you