

*Statement by the delegation of Cambodia at the 16th Session of the UPR WG of HRC
Review of Uzbekistan (Wednesday, 24 April 2013)*

Mr. President,

- a. At the outset, on behalf of the Cambodian delegation, I would like to extend my profound thanks to H.E. Mr. Akmal SAIDOV, Director of the National Human Rights Centre of the Republic of Uzbekistan for his presentation at this UPR process.
- b. Cambodia takes note of progress and efforts made by the Government of Uzbekistan to address all relevant fields of human rights in the country, through the implementation of the adopted recommendations at the first cycle of UPR.
- c. Cambodia welcomes the adoption of national plans along with measures and related activities undertaken by the Uzbekistan government to improve the human rights situation in the country, (**such as conducting political, legal and judicial reforms, enhancing gender equality, children's rights, education and training on human rights**). The abolishment of death penalty since 2008 is noteworthy in this regard.
- d. We also note with appreciation of Uzbekistan steps in ratifying 10 international agreements in the period 2008-2012, thus reflecting Uzbekistan's further commitments toward the international cooperation in this important area.
- e. Like many others countries, along with progress, the country acknowledges its constraints and remain committed to addressing a number of related challenges. In this context, Cambodia wishes to make the following recommendations for Uzbekistan:
 1. To take more effective steps in strengthening gender equality and women empowerment in the country and in ensuring a plan of comprehensive development of children.
 2. To continue efforts to combat trafficking in women and children in the framework of implementation of the national legislation and international obligations of the country.

Thank you Mr. President.