

27<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council (8-26 September 2014)

Palais des Nations, Geneva

Statement of OCAPROCE International on item 6

**By Hewan Tafete**

Mr. President

OCAPROCE welcome the delegation of Côte D'Ivoire for the presentation of their report while recognizing the complex political situation that the country had faced since the 2010 elections.

We congratulate Côte D'Ivoire on its national action plan against domestic and sexual violence, the measures taken to combat discrimination against women and for the establishment of provision of free medical care for mother and children. In addition to these OCAPROCE acknowledge the efforts to combat violence against women and the promotion of women's roles. In regard of children, we also noted efforts to combat child labor, including the trafficking of children.

Despite all these efforts, OCAPROCE note that there is a lack of comprehensive legislation on violation and discrimination against women; this implies that lack of attention given to sexual violence. Female genital mutilation (FGM), forced and early marriage remained a widespread practice. We also note at the discrimination of women victims of sexual violence and the difficulties they encountered in accessing medical and psychological support. We recommend the government to ensure that women had effective accesses to courts and tribunals, and to strength victim assistance and rehabilitation.

Even though educational opportunities for women were improving at all levels the status of women, in practice and in the law, was still below, women's representation in the decision-making bodies remained low. We invite the government to apply affirmative action, quota, and to broaden accesses to empowerment of women.

OCAPROCE urge the government to guarantee that those responsible for violation of the human rights of women committed during the post-election crisis were brought to justice and that all acts of sexual violence were punished and finally we invite the government intensifying its efforts to improve condition of detention, notably the separation of quarters of children, women and men in detention facilities where this has not been achieved yet.

I thank you.