



*Organisation Non Gouvernementale ayant Statut spécial à l'ECOSOC aux Nations Unies, membre observateur à la Commission Africaine des Droits de l'Homme et des Peuples (CADHP) de l'Union Africaine.*

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*Speaker: Romina Morán*

Thank you Mr. President,

RADDHO welcomes Uganda to the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review. Since the first review of the country we appreciate the effort made by the government to implementing several recommendations.

Uganda embraced presidential, general parliamentary and local elections in February 2016, contributing to the advancement of democracy. Despite the efforts made by the country stimulating the respect for human rights, adopting the *Prevention and Prohibition of Torture Act* in 2012 as well as the *Second National Development Plan* in 2015, policies enhancing and protecting women's rights are almost nonexistent. Sexual and gender-based violence and discrepancies in economic opportunities remain. Sexual and reproductive information and service, including safe abortions should be offered by health care providers.

RADDHO deplores the discrimination and social stigmatization, in particular of persons with disabilities, persons with albinism and same-sex relationships between consenting adults.

In addition, even though the country's Police and Defence Forces established a human rights board to handle human rights issues, RADDHO urges the revision on the *Public Order Management Act* to guarantee an adequate use of force and dismantle the disciplines which allow public authorities to ban peaceful protests.

RADDHO stresses the need of ratifying the *Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture*. Furthermore, a formal moratorium on the death penalty with the aim of abolishing capital punishment should be adopted.

In conclusion, RADDHO exhorts Uganda to create open dialogue with all the stakeholders and reconsider the recommendations that have been rejected. This process can help the country to build good institutions that respect human rights and reinforce democracy.

Thank you.