



**SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

ADOPTION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW REPORT OF COLOMBIA

24th Session of the Human Rights Council

Item 6

19 September 2013

Check against delivery

Mr President,

South Africa wishes to welcome the delegation of Colombia to the 24th session of the Human Rights Council. We commend the great importance Colombia attaches to the UPR process, as demonstrated by the presence of Vice-President Garzon during the Working Group session.

South Africa appreciates the explanations provided on the Government's position regarding the recommendations received during the Working Group session and appreciates the acceptance of South Africa's recommendation. The addendum submitted to the report provides further insight and transparency to Colombia's engagement and consideration of recommendations during the UPR process.

South Africa encourages Colombia to continue to exert all efforts towards the promotion, protection and fulfillment of all human rights for its citizens and to continue taking the necessary steps to realize the voluntary pledges and commitments as set out in the report.

Finally Mr President, South Africa supports the adoption of the report on the UPR of Colombia by the Council today. We wish the Government of Colombia well with the implementation of all the accepted recommendations.

I thank you.