Mr. Chairman,

My delegation extends its sincere appreciation to the Secretary-General for the comprehensive reports submitted under this agenda item. I also wish to thank the special procedure mandate holders for their presentations made earlier.

Mr. Chairman,

Nepal regards Human Rights as vital attributes of modern human societies and holds the view that human rights of all should be recognized, respected, protected and promoted irrespective of one's sex, ethnicity, color, religion, language or any other identities. While various human rights are interrelated, interdependent and indivisible, they become inextricably linked with democracy and development when it comes to realizing a peaceful, democratic and prosperous society.

Nepal attaches great significance to human rights principles in general and firmly stands by its national and international commitments to their promotion and protection. At home, the Interim Constitution of Nepal, 2007, reaffirms Nepal's commitment to human rights by guaranteeing fundamental political, social, cultural and economic rights to the citizens. Accordingly, several domestic laws are in effect to ensure the rights of all sections of society, including women, children, and the marginalized and deprived communities. Nepal is also a party to 24 human rights conventions and protocols including seven core international Human Rights instruments.

Despite having emerged from the difficult time of armed conflict, our commitment to human rights remains unflinching and we are ever effortful in institutionalizing the achievements made thus far, including implementation of recommendations and the voluntary pledges and commitments made during the UPR.
As provided for in the Constitution, the National Human Rights Commission continues to work as a strong watchdog for the promotion and protection of human rights in Nepal. The Commission, with its five regional and three sub-regional offices, conducts inquiries and investigations into alleged cases of violation of human rights and makes recommendations for action against the perpetrator on the matters of violation or abetment of human rights, apart from making recommendations for promotional aspects of human rights.

Nepal has been implementing Human Rights National Action Plan periodically since 2004. The current Three-year National Human Rights Action Plan focuses on vital areas such as education, culture, health, labor and employment, environment and sustainable development, law and prison reform, conflict management and institutional strengthening. The Government is putting serious efforts to strengthen capacity of all national institutions related to human rights such as the Commission on women, Commission on Dalits as well as the media and civil society organizations.

In order to prioritize the issue of human rights in Nepal, Office of Prime Minister and Council of Ministers has been established for the overall coordination of Human Rights, as a government focal agency.

Advancement of women continues to remain on top of our national agenda. Nepal is committed to empowering women politically, economically and socially through protection, affirmative action, capacity building and empowerment. Nepal is implementing the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1325 and 1820 through National Plan of Action, for the meaningful participation of women in post-conflict peace and development process of the country. Similarly, National Strategies and Plans of Actions on the Elimination of Gender-based Violence and Gender Empowerment are also being implemented.

**Mr. Chairman,**

The right to development is central to our plan with a core objective of eradicating poverty and hunger. As human rights, democracy and development are mutually reinforcing each other, the current 13th Development Plan has adopted right-based approach to development with a focus on the rights of women, children, elderly, youth and persons with disabilities.

My delegation takes on serious note that despite the contribution made by the migrant workers for the overall development across the globe, migrant workers often tend to be one of the most vulnerable groups in terms of enjoyment of human rights. Growing incidents of xenophobia and intolerance tend to undermine human rights of the migrant workers in various parts of the world. Therefore, we need serious and concerted efforts to address this problem and protect the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

**Mr. Chairman,**
We believe that for a long-term and sustainable development, addressing the issue of human rights are vital, particularly in the context of the LDCs, which is contingent upon the national capacity building. Therefore, we urge the United Nations system, BWIs and the development partners for enhanced and predictable support in order to enable them to further protection and promotion of human rights, and development.

I thank you!