



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.

Human Rights Council 32nd Session

RADDHO Statement
UPR outcomes Sierra Leone
24 June 2016

Speaker: Alikuleti Amock

Mr. President,

RADDHO welcomes Sierra Leone's stated commitment to international human rights standards. This commitment is reflected in Sierra Leone's receptive participation in the UPR process. The country's intent to comprehensively incorporate international law into domestic legislation is evidenced by its ratification of five of the nine major UN treaties and its signatory status to all nine. RADDHO is pleased with Sierra Leone's results, a country that has come a long way. We take this opportunity to congratulate Ambassador Yvette Stevens for her contribution to the results, which are the fruit of her many years of experience in the UN system.

Mr. President, though the country's level of commitment is encouraging, we would like to focus on the level of progress regarding implementation and ways to strengthen engagement. In the area of the rights of the child, we welcome the eradication of the use of child soldiers and the relative safeguards put in place. Keeping in mind the specific situation that Sierra Leone is emerging from: the many years of civil war and the crisis of the Ebola epidemic, which has wreaked havoc on the economy, it is promising to see the country's engagement in rebuilding and strengthening its economy as well as its legislative mechanisms on human rights.

Regarding ways to strengthen engagement, we urge Sierra Leone to fight against family violence and the exploitation of children and girls in mining zones. Additionally, we conclude by calling on the international community, as well as regional partners, to assist Sierra Leone, through capacity building, in accelerating the harmonization of domestic legislation with international law. This, we emphasize, requires the ratification of outstanding treaties and the implementation of outstanding UPR recommendations.

Thank you Mr. President.