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Human Rights Council Thirty-first session Agenda item 6 Universal Periodic Review

> Written statement^{*} submitted by The Association Mauritanienne pour la Promotion du Droit, a nongovernmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[13 February 2016]

^{*} This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).





Declaration of the EPDDHO NGO (Together Promoting and Defending Human Rights) to the UPR March 2016 Member of The Association Mauritanienne pour la Promotion du Droit (AMAPROD)

Mr Chairman,

On behalf of my organization, EPDDHO, I thank you for giving me the floor.

First, we welcome the presentation of the Mauritanian delegation marked by franchise and objectivity and we take this opportunity to reiterate asking for the implementation of accepted recommendations as soon as possible.

We also welcome the recent visit made by Mr Juan Ernesto Mendez, the UN Special Rapporteur on torture in our country and are convinced that it will further promote the respect for human dignity. The visit demonstrated the openness of the Government and its real willingness to cooperate with all international mechanisms, including the UPR.

In order to consolidate the achievements in respect of protection and promotion of human rights in Mauritania, we recommend the following:

- 1- Strengthen the capacities of Mauritanian Civil Society in promotion and protection of human rights;
- 2- Provide technical and financial support to Mauritania in order to accelerate the implementation of the Road Map for the eradication of the legacy and contemporary forms of slavery;
- 3. Accelerate the adoption of the law on gender-based violence.

Thank you Mr Chairman Dr Mohamed Lemine Ould Haless President EPDDHO

Together Promoting and Defending Human Rights (EPDDHO), an NGO without consultative status, also shares the views expressed in this statement