

Indian Council of South America

March 19, 2014

General Debate Item 4

Country Specific Situations

Ambassador Ronald Barnes

Thank you Monsieur/Madame Chair,

We congratulate the Delegation of Saudi Arabia for the completion of its second Universal Periodic Review in evaluation its human rights record here at the Human Rights Council. We commend Saudi Arabia for increasing its support from 150 thousand dollars to 1 million dollars annually. It is also commendable for the 110 million dollar donation to the international counter-terrorism centre (United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre).

We agree with recommendations that Saudi Arabia continue to work toward acceding to the ICCPR and the ECESCR by stepping up its efforts to ratify international treaties these as well as other international human rights instruments.

While it was noted that Saudi Arabia has placed women in high positions, we would recommend that it continue to place women with different viewpoints in positions of government to assist in addressing the disadvantage that women face to determine how you can improve and can be improved upon. In this light we agree that Saudi Arabia needs to adopt legal measures for violence against women, a problem that is pervasive in all countries of the world.

We ask you to continue to improve the situation of migrants and labor and children's rights.

Finally we recommend that Saudi Arabia continue to work toward implementing the recommendations from its first UPR cycle and to issue a moratorium on the death penalty and to study other possibilities than the death penalty.

