

**Statement of the Bangladesh Delegation on Universal Periodic Mechanism,
Third Human Rights Council, 4 November 2006**

Mr. President,

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) will be a significant addition to the tools of Human Rights Council for the promotion and protection of human rights. Subjecting all countries to review under this process is a major step away from the selectivity that so often afflicted the Commission on Human Rights. Once in place, it will pave the way for a general and comprehensive evaluation of the human rights situation of a particular country.

We have made some progress in the working group under the able leadership of the distinguished Ambassador of Morocco. He deserves applaud for offering us the preliminary conclusion based on our discussion on six elements proposed. We realize, a lot of work is needed to complete modalities of the mechanism. We would be ready to participate in good faith to provide it a suitable shape.

We would however, emphasis that our point of departure should always be the paragraph 5 (e) of the GA resolution. It has provided basic outline of the UPR mechanism. Any attempt to re-invent its scope and objective would unnecessarily complicate our work and make convergence of positions difficult.

It is generally agreed that UPR should review the fulfillment by each State of its human rights obligations and commitments. A more general focus on obligation and commitment should be encouraged rather than the identification of specific legal provisions and standards. It should be a cooperative mechanism based on interactive dialogue with the full involvement of the country concerned. If we can agree to this broad objective, we will be able to establish a credible, effective and manageable UPR.