

**UN Watch Statement on Uganda UPR  
UNHRC, 19<sup>th</sup> Session, March 16, 2012  
Delivered by Ms. Livia Tagliacozzo**

Thank you, Madam President.

UN Watch welcomes the recommendations in this report calling on Uganda to put an end to laws, policies and practices that are manifestly inconsistent with its international human rights obligations.

We endorse Germany's call for Uganda to refrain from enacting the proposed Public Order Management Bill, and to fully guarantee the freedom of assembly.

We support Hungary's call for Uganda to ease the heavy administrative burdens on NGOs, such as the yearly registration obligations.

We echo the U.S. call for Uganda to simplify NGO registration requirements and remove the NGO Board from the supervision of security organizations.

Finally, we join the call—by Canada, Australia, Austria, Norway, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland—for Uganda to reject the proposed Anti-Homosexuality Bill.

This shocking and discriminatory text would impose criminal penalties—and even in some cases the death penalty—on the basis of sexual orientation.

Madam President, all of the above recommendations have one thing in common. They have been formally rejected by the Ugandan government.

Madam President, it is time for tolerance to replace bigotry.

It is time for human rights to replace human wrongs.

It is time for Uganda to create the conditions of freedom that are the birthright of every individual, and the only path to health, stability and success for every society.

Thank you, Madam President.