Mr. President,

The Lutheran World Federation and its partners\(^1\) would like to commend the Government of Nepal for its constructive engagement with the Universal Periodic Review mechanism and look forward to concrete implementation measures of the recommendations that are pending adoption today.

LWF would like to reiterate its support and desire to collaborate with the Government of Nepal in implementing accepted recommendations to improve the human rights situation in the country, including but not limited to, strengthening the rule of law, and constitutional provisions that safeguard women’s rights, and protect Dalits, and other minorities and vulnerable groups; promoting religious and ethnic harmony and understanding; improving food security and access to safe drinking water for all; advancing land rights and equitable access to land and forest; and buttressing the right to health, adequate housing and education.

LWF and its partners will continue to leverage their respective positions in providing platforms for key government and non-governmental stakeholders to come together; discuss key challenges; devise joint solutions to addressing these challenges; and in collectively implementing these solutions.

Mr. President, in order to carry out these duties and ensure that the UPR mechanism makes a difference on the ground, we call upon, first the government of Nepal to continue working closely with all national stakeholders in the implementation and monitoring of the UPR recommendations and secondly, the international community to provide necessary support for the government of Nepal in its endeavour to realize human rights for its citizens.

I thank you Mr. President

\(^1\) The Finnish Evangelical Lutheran Mission (FELM).