

## **Statement delivered on behalf of the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of Morocco**

### **General Assembly informal, interactive dialogue on the “Responsibility to Protect: State Responsibility and Prevention”**

11 September 2013

(UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTION)

Thank you, Mr. Moderator.

I am the new Deputy Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco and I'd like to express my gratitude for having organized this debate on The Responsibility to Protect. I would also like to thank the distinguished panelists for their constructive statements.

Mr. Moderator, the Kingdom of Morocco is committed to a balanced responsibility to protect which lies first and foremost with states, and which must be in accordance with the United Nations Charter and following certain parameters and the concept reaffirmed by the 2005 [World] Summit and reaffirmed by a resolution of the Security Council.

Having said that, Morocco is ready to become more involved in the international efforts to deepen our discussion of this concept. In that spirit, we take advantage of this opportunity to share a few examples of the Moroccan experience when it comes to the Responsibility to Protect along the lines of the ideas expressed by the Secretary General.

First of all, with respect to the constitutional guarantee which the report stressed, rightly, the Moroccan constitution criminalizes genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, as well as serious and systematic human rights violations and offers guarantees which cover aspects of dignity as well as the socioeconomic development of citizens, their fundamental freedoms and their rights. These guarantees eliminate risk factors mentioned by the Secretary General, and especially since the Moroccan Constitution calls for a set of measures, where certain measures promote equality of participation and pluralism, equal opportunity, good governance, as well as social justice, and others which prevent incitement to hatred and any form of discrimination, which are factors of tension and conflict.

The Moroccan legal framework to protect the nation and to protect these rights was officially adopted to international standards through the integration and implementation of international instruments to protect populations, including those which are listed in the report. Almost all of them have been ratified by Morocco within the framework of legislative and constitutional reform. The conventions ratified by Morocco now have supremacy over the...of the country.

In that same spirit, Morocco has a unique protection mechanism in the region. This is the Equity and Reconciliation Authority whose recommendations were incorporated in the 2011 Constitution, thus taking the Moroccan experience to international standards. And, as the Secretary General said, this type of mechanism makes it possible to tackle the deep-rooted causes of attention, emphasizing the non-violation of human rights as guaranteeing a greater protection to citizens, and we have a national infrastructure aimed at promoting and protecting human rights made up of the national human rights institution, which is in accordance with the Principles of Paris and which has the attributions at the national and regional level, which would guarantee its impact on protecting and defending human rights. There is also an institution of mediators, an Economic and Social Council, a youth council, as well

as a department in charge of coordinating government action when it comes to protecting human rights, and lastly, an authority to ensure equality and fight against discrimination.

All of these institutional and legislative measures are aimed at improving the state's performance in protecting and promoting rights and principles which would enhance social peace and stability, and which would consolidate the rule of law.

To conclude, Mr. President, I'd like to support the Secretary General's proposal to devote our dialogue to the second pillar and the rights of Member States and the international community to help states to strengthen their capacity to protect.

Thank you.