

Italian intervention**UPR – ALGERIA****(29/05/2012)**

Thank you, Madame President.

We thank the distinguished delegation of Algeria for its participation and the informative national report. Algeria has always been a fundamental partner for Italy in the Mediterranean Sea. We welcome the recent elections that represent a step forward in the reform process started in April 2011, following the lifting of the state of emergency, and in particular, the increased number of women elected in the National Assembly.

Italy commends also Algeria for its long standing de facto moratorium on capital punishment, the co-sponsorship of the relevant GA resolutions, as well as the membership in the Support Group to the International Commission against the death penalty. Italy encourages Algeria to consider the abolishment of capital punishment.

Italy has taken due note of the achievements in the domain of the right to education with higher enrollment rates in 2011 in comparison to 2000. In this regard, we would like to have additional information on the measures adopted by the Government to increase girls' schooling in the southern and highland regions.

Finally, Madame President, Italy recommends to consider the adoption of new legislation on violence against women, suggested also by CEDAW.

I thank you, Madame President.