



**Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations
Human Rights Council – Universal Periodical Review
Poland, May 30th, 2012**

Madam President,

The Holy See welcomes the Delegation of the Republic of Poland led by H.E. Ms. Grazyna Bernatowicz, Under Secretary of State at Minister of Foreign Affairs. The National Report highlights the significant work made to promote and protect human rights in the country.

Nevertheless, Poland still faces some challenges. There is the presence of a relatively small number of illegal migrants who are encountering difficulties, especially regarding the registration of new births or the enrolment of their children in school. Without integration into the educational system, those children live on the streets where they easily become victims of trade and sexual exploitation.

My Delegation wishes to present the following recommendations for consideration by the Republic of Poland:

- To continue its efforts to assure birth registration of all children.
- To take measures to guarantee full access to education and to health to all vulnerable groups, including illegal migrants.
- To continue to protect the natural family and marriage, formed by a husband and a wife, as the basic cell of society, as well as the right to life.
- To provide access to the means of communication to all groups of society so that they may exercise fully their right to freedom of expression.

Thank you, Madam President.