

NEW VERSION

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Italian intervention

**UPR – GUATEMALA
(24/10/2012)**

Thank you, Madame President.

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Guatemala and thank it for today's informative presentation.

Italy commends Guatemala on the accession to the ICC Rome Statute, which does not provide for capital punishment, even with respect to the most heinous crimes. We welcome the ongoing de facto moratorium on executions, and we would be pleased to know whether Guatemala intends to consider a moratorium of capital punishment verdicts with a view to abolishing it and acceding to the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR (International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights).

Italy underlines the importance of the protection of the rights of the child. Noting with appreciation the measures taken to address the issue of child labour, such as the penalization of the employment of children in work which is harmful to their integrity and dignity, Italy **recommends** Guatemala to strengthen its efforts to eradicate child labour, improving coordination among the numerous national institutions dealing with the rights of child.

Italy welcomes the recent adoption of more rigorous legislation addressing violence against women. We would like to know how Guatemala intends to support effectively investigation, prosecution and prevention of violence against women.

We also appreciate the opening of 12 regional bureaus of The Office for the Defense of Indigenous Women. In this regards, we would request further information on future steps aimed at increasing women participation in public administration and political process, particularly with reference to women belonging to indigenous communities.

I thank you, Madam President