

Check against delivery

Italian intervention

**UPR – Russia Federation
(29/04/2013)**

Thank you, Mister President.

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Russian Federation.

Italy strongly appreciates Russian support for the UN General Assembly Resolutions on a moratorium of the executions. Recalling the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers' "unequivocal opposition to the death penalty, in all places and in all circumstances", Italy would like to **recommend** that Russia consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and take steps towards a "de jure" abolition of the death penalty.

Noting with apprehension the widespread concerns about the application of the law on "combating extremism" and the 2012 legislation on foreign-funded Organizations, as well as the campaign of nationwide inspections launched in February-March 2013, Italy proposes to Russian Federation the following recommendations:

- To consider revising the current legislation on "combating extremism", so as to precise the definition of the crime of extremism and apply it only in relevant cases, in full compliance with international obligations.
- To revise the law on "foreign agents" and adopt measures in order to facilitate and enhance dialogue and practical cooperation between Government and civil society.

I thank you, Mr. President