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**Statement
By
The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
On the Universal Periodic Review of Afghanistan**

Ethiopia welcomes the delegation of Afghanistan led by H.E. Mohammad Qasim Hashimzai, Senior Adviser to the Ministry of Justice to the 18th session of the UPR Working Group. We thank the delegation for the report and comprehensive presentation.

We note with appreciation the reviewing significant number of laws, regulations and policy documents to align them with the countries obligation under international human rights law. We particularly commend the particular attention given to women and children in reviewing the legal and policy frameworks of the country.

We commend Afghanistan for taking significant measures to improve the life of women and children including enactments of national action plan on women, children with disabilities and on the countries national development strategy.

We encourage Afghanistan to further work on the implementation of the revised laws and to further consolidate its effort on alleviating poverty and bring sustainable peace and development in the country.

While acknowledging the challenges faced by Afghanistan, we would like to recommend to Afghanistan,

1. To continue on its efforts to empower women and underprivileged segments of the society;
2. To take necessary measures to increase the percentage of women in decision making positions;
3. To further provide training to security and law enforcement organs on human rights protection and promotion; and

4. To further build up on its efforts to full protect human rights of in the country.

Finally, we wish all the successes to the delegation of Afghanistan in its engagement with the Council.

Thank you