

**Statement by Hungary on Afghanistan,
UPR Session 18, 27 January 2014**

**Delivered by Ellen van Thiel, Human Rights Advisor, Permanent Mission of
Hungary**

Mr President,

Hungary welcomes the distinguished delegation of Afghanistan and congratulates the country for the progress achieved in implementing previous UPR recommendations. We acknowledge the important legislative work and institutional reforms aimed at improving the country's human rights situation, with particular regard to women and children.

Hungary shares the view of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission that respect for the rule of law is key in ensuring and strengthening human rights, which cannot be achieved without fair administration of justice and efficient law enforcement capacities. We remain concerned about the prevalence of arbitrary arrests and detention by the police, cases of torture and other ill-treatment in detention facilities, different forms of violence, abuse and discrimination against women and girls, and the impunity of perpetrators of human rights violations. The worrisome human rights situation of internally displaced persons is also matter of concern.

Regarding women's rights, there is a vital need for a continued commitment of the Afghan Government to safeguard these rights. Maintaining this momentum includes implementation of the Elimination of Violence Against Women (EVAW) law and monitoring of its progress.

We encourage Afghanistan to uphold its efforts aimed at the practical implementation of its human rights commitments and recommend the accession of the country to the optional protocols of the human rights conventions it is party to.

We also recommend that Afghanistan enhance its cooperation with the HRC by issuing a standing invitation to special procedures and accepting all requested visits by mandate holders.

Thank you Mr President.