

UPR of Afghanistan
Statement by the Republic of Poland

January 27th 2014

Thank you, Mr. President,

The delegation of Poland would like to thank the delegation of Afghanistan for the presentation of their national report. We welcome Afghanistan's active engagement in the UPR process.

Mr. President,

Poland acknowledges the efforts made by Afghanistan to improve the situation of women including, inter alia, through the adoption of the National Action Plan for Women for the period 2008-2018. However, we remain concerned about negligence visible in implementation of the EAW law as well as the persisting discrepancies between the situation of men and women, including in such areas of life as access to justice, education, work and healthcare. With a view to eliminating inequalities we recommend:

- **to repeal article 398 of the Afghan Penal Code with a view to ensuring full accountability for the perpetrators of so called *honour killings*;**
- **to take effective measures to prevent child and forced marriages;**

At the same time, we are alarmed by reports on the recruitment of children by Afghan National Security Forces and other armed groups.

Therefore Poland recommends that Afghanistan **provides demobilized children with assistance and penalize those persons responsible for military recruitment of children .**

I thank you.