



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA  
GENEVA

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The 18<sup>th</sup> Session of UPR Working Group  
Review of Afghanistan  
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**Statement of the Republic of Korea**

Mr. President,

My delegation wishes to warmly welcome the delegation of Afghanistan and appreciates the government's efforts to submit its national report to this Working Group. My delegation commends the achievements made by the Government of Afghanistan in the promotion and protection of human rights. We particularly take note of the Government's efforts to establish legislation on the eradication of violence against women and to expand opportunities for women to advance in the Government and other public sectors. Also, we would like to congratulate the AIHRC on fully cooperating with international society to improve human rights on the ground.

In the hope that Afghanistan will continue to build upon the current achievements, my delegation would like to draw its attention to a couple of issues.

First, we take note with concern that the Eradication of Violence Against Women Law does not criminalize "honor killing". Also we have concerns with other practices including early forced marriage and domestic violence. We therefore, recommend the Government of Afghanistan to put forward its utmost efforts to abolish those practices both at the legal and policy levels.

Secondly, acknowledging the important role of the AIHRC in improving human rights, we recommend the Government of Afghanistan to take appropriate measures to enhance the authority and independence of the AIHRC. Thus, we recommend the government to introduce transparent procedures in appointing members of the AIHRC and to provide sufficient financial assistance to the AIHRC.

Thank you. Mr. President. /End/