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**EMBASSY AND PERMANENT MISSION OF AFGHANISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS
OFFICE IN GENEVA**

2nd Circle of UPR, ERITREA

3rd February 2014

Mr. President.

Afghanistan warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Eritrea to the 18th Session of the UPR working Group and thanks the State of Eritrea for preparing its National Report in consultation with Civil Society and all concerned government stakeholder ministries and departments.

Afghanistan commends the State of Eritrea for the progress achieved since the first UPR cycle in protecting and promoting the dignity of the children by creating a better environment for their growths and development, providing access to free basic education for all school age children and ensuring that children below the age of 18 years are not engaged in any occupation endangering their physical, mental, spiritual and social development.

We also takes a positive note of the measures taken by the State of Eritrea to protect health of its citizens, and the government's willingness to invest in the establishment of health facilities throughout the country.

In conclusion, Mr. President, Afghanistan strongly believes that education encourages transparency, good governance, results in raising income, and promoting gender equality, Therefore, we would like to **recommend** State of Eritrea to take further measures to guarantee access to education at all levels, particularly at University level.

Thank you

Mr. Babakerkhail