STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA ON UPR OF VIETNAM

Thank you,

His E. Mr. Kim MGOC, Deputy MFA

Albania welcomes the distinguished delegation headed by to this second UPR cycle and thanks Vietnam for the presentation of such a qualitative and comprehensive report before us today.

We commend the broad participation of multiple categories of stakeholders in the drafting process of this report and the organising of a Work Shop at national level to finalise the document in the spirit of full and open cooperation with all interested parties. It is important to point out that the country has set good practice involving civil society, the media and wide public in the consultation process for the draft amendments of the Constitution.

Albania also welcomes the positive steps of Vietnam to limit the scope of death penalty crimes in particular the cessation of death penalty and life imprisonment for juvenile offenders.

Nevertheless, we note with concern that children trafficking, forced labour and prostitution remain problematic in the country. On the other hand children also continue to be a marginalised group with regard to the equal distribution of socio-economic benefits/assets such as education, health care etc. To this end we highly recommend Vietnam:

- 1. To fully address recommendations and issues of concern raised by CRC with regard to child abuses (trafficking, forced labor and prostitution) and to provide the necessary resources allocated for children particularly affecting children living in remote areas, children with disabilities and children from ethnic minorities and indigenous groups.
- 2. Consider signing and ratifying the main international human rights treaties such as: CAT, ICRMW, CRPD, CPED and the Optional Protocols to ICCPR, ICESCR and OP-CAT, OP-CRC-IC.

Thank you Mr. President.

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