

Italian intervention

**UPR – Yemen
(29/01/2014)**

Thank you, Mr. President.

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Yemen, and we commend the efforts undertaken to improve the situation of human rights in the Country, especially considering the difficult situation Yemen is facing. We particularly welcome measures meant to deal with past abuses and to facilitate the process of national reconciliation.

Italy appreciates the measures taken so far, such as Decisions 212 of 2012 and 193 of 2013, and **recommends** to further increase the efforts in order to totally eradicate the recruitment or use of children by armed forces and armed groups.

Italy is concerned by the recurrent use of the death penalty, especially when used for punishing non violent crimes. Italy thus **recommends** that Yemen may soon comply with the minimum international standards regarding capital executions, also by further implementing the already existing national legislation that protects juveniles and mentally impaired from being sentenced to death.

As for the situation of women, Italy welcomes the actions already undertaken, in particular those aimed at increasing women's participation in public life and business. Italy **recommends** to adopt and implement further measures in order to contrast discrimination, prevent and punish episodes of violence against women and eradicate harmful practices such as female genital mutilations and early and forced marriages.

I thank you, Mr. President

Simona Battiloro