

**Universal Period Review Working Group - 19th Session
Universal Periodic Review of Albania**

Statement by Rwanda delegation delivered by Mr. Budurege Jean de Dieu

Mr President,

My delegation extends a warm welcome to the delegation of Albania to the 19th Session of the UPR working group and congratulates them for their detailed presentation on the progress made since their last UPR.

Rwanda commends Albania for the adoption of National strategy on Gender Equality and Reduction of Gender-Based Violence in the family. We also appreciate the 4 priorities of this strategy outlined in the report.

We also commend Albania for undertaking important measures aimed at combating corruption including the restriction of the immunity of high-level officials.

We have taken note that for the first time women hold 6 positions (30%) of the government cabinet, 7 positions as deputy ministers and 28 positions in the parliament (20%). However, we recommend Albania to:

Increase more women in political and public life in both national and local government bodies and address gender stereotypes that perpetrate discrimination against women.

Ratify the second optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

I Thank you