

Rolands Ingauts

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**Statement of the Republic of Latvia
19th session of the UPR
Review of Ethiopia**

Mr. President,

Latvia welcomes the delegation of Ethiopia to the second cycle of the UPR and thanks for the comprehensive national report.

We take positive note of recent adoption by the Parliament of the National Human Rights Action Plan and the opening of the regional offices of the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission. However, we remain concerned at the reports of widespread violence against women and children particularly noting that the corporal punishment of children continues to be lawful in the country. We encourage Ethiopia to further strengthen its efforts to protect and promote the rights of these groups.

In addition my delegation would like to make following recommendations:

First, to accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute;

Second, to consider extending a standing invitation to all the special procedures mandates holders of the Human Rights Council.

Thank you, Mr. President.