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Thank you Mr. President,

Norway appreciates the efforts made by Qatar since 2010 and would like to thank the Qatari delegation for a comprehensive national report.

Norway shares the concerns raised about the working and living conditions of foreign workers in Qatar, and in particular of women doing domestic work in private households. Norway recommends that Qatar take active steps to reform its labour laws in order to improve working conditions for foreign workers, to give female domestic workers the necessary legal protection and to address the recent rulings by the ILO on forced labour and freedom of association and collective bargaining.

There is reason to be concerned that women in Qatar face discrimination. Norway recommends that Qatar continue strengthening protective measures and legal rights for women, and that full citizenship rights be provided to children of Qatari mothers and non-Qatari fathers.

Norway recommends that Qatar encourage the freedom of expression of opinion and strengthen cooperation and coordination with civil society and non-governmental organisations.

Norway appreciates that Qatar has carried out no executions since 1995. We recommend that all death sentences be commuted and that Qatar declare a moratorium on executions and move towards abolition.

Thank you

Speaker : Elin Engelsen Geitle