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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA
GENEVA

The 20th Session of UPR Working Group
Review of Iraq
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Statement of the Republic of Korea

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Republic of Korea warmly welcomes the delegation of Iraq. We note the progress that has been made since the last review of Iraq in 2010, ranging from accession to core human rights conventions to the adoption of various human rights policies and legislation.

However, concerns still remain: The rule of law has yet to take root, which impedes the effective implementation of human rights policies and legislation. We **recommend** that Iraq focus on raising awareness among policy implementers about the rule of law for the purpose of ensuring human rights of Iraqi citizens, combating corruption and restoring public trust in the Government.

Moreover, as ISIL gains in strength across the country, the human rights situation continues to be jeopardized with the untold suffering of IDPs. Further deterioration of the human rights situation must be stopped. We **recommend** that Iraq take necessary steps, including a prompt and thorough investigation into human rights violations and abuses committed in the country. We **also recommend** that Iraq draw up a plan to assist and protect IDPs in an effective and systematic manner.

Thank you, Mr. President. /End/