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**Statement by the Delegation of Kazakhstan
at the 20th Session of WG of HRC / UPR of Iraq
3 November, 2014**

Thank you, Mr. President,

Kazakhstan's delegation welcomes the delegation of Iraq headed by H.E.

We thank His Excellency for a comprehensive presentation. Our delegation commends achievements and efforts of the Government of Iraq in protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms of its citizens.

It is also worth mentioning that the country has acceded the core international legal human rights treaties and other international instruments during the last four years such as the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages; the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction; the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions; the Arab Charter on Human Rights and others.

Kazakhstan appreciates strengthening by the Iraqi Government the institutional structures for protection and promotion of human rights in the country.

Concerning the State's National Report, our delegation would like to stress on several recommendations to the Government of Iraq:

1. To devote more efforts in the field of harmonizing gender equality for guaranteeing their equal rights;
2. To efficiently implement recently ratified international conventions, especially, in the field of child rights;
3. To take appropriate measures for ensuring prosecution for trafficking.

Thank you.