

Mr Ioannis TSAOUSIS
First Counsellor

IRAQ

UPR 20th Session

(Geneva, 27.10-07.11.14)

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Questions-Recommendations by Greece

Thank you Mr President,

Greece would like to welcome the delegation of Iraq and express appreciation for the country's efforts in implementing the recommendations of the first cycle, despite the current security situation in the country.

We fully understand this situation and we have joined the Human Rights Council in condemning during the recent Special Session, in the strongest possible terms, the systematic violations and abuses of human rights committed by the so-called Islamic State. We have also supported the dispatching of an OHCHR Mission in Iraq and we are confident that the government of Iraq will cooperate closely and efficiently with the Mission.

We commend Iraq on the changes in the normative and institutional framework related to the protection and promotion of human rights, including the establishment of the Court and the High Commission of Human Rights. **We recommend** the full and effective implementation of all recent changes in the institutional framework related to human rights, including in the area of protection of women, children as well as persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities.

Greece also **recommends** that Iraq :

- establishes a moratorium on executions in view of abolishing the death penalty
- ratifies the optional protocol to CEDAW
- enhances cooperation with UN Special Procedures

Finally, we wish to the Iraqi Delegation every success for this second UPR cycle.

Thank you Mr President