UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW, 20th Session, October 2014

Recommendations from Denmark to Italy

Mr. President,

Denmark thanks the delegation of Italy for its presentation today.

Denmark commends the steps taken by Italy to follow up on recommendations from its first UPR, and would like to highlight the benefits, of having an independent, national human rights institution to monitor and track the results of these important efforts. The establishment of a Human Rights Institution was one of Denmark’s recommendations to Italy during the first UPR cycle, and we were pleased to see that Italy in 2011 - as part of its voluntary pledges in relation to the election to the Human Rights Council - confirmed its willingness to establish such an institution.

Denmark would like to reiterate our recommendation to the Government of Italy to establish its national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles before the end of 2015.

Denmark commends Italy’s far-reaching and commendable efforts to rescue lives at sea.

However, Denmark still has concerns about reports that children have been returned to a third country without protection, which would not be in accordance with the readmission agreements signed in 1999.

Denmark recommends that the Government of Italy introduce legislation to ensure assistance and protection for unaccompanied children seeking asylum.

Thank you Mr. President