



PERMANENT MISSION OF PORTUGAL
GENEVA

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20th session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group
(27 October – 7 November 2014)

Italy

Statement by Portugal

Mr. President,

Portugal warmly welcomes the Delegation of Italy and thanks for the presentation of the national UPR report, highlighting the Government's commitment to the highest standards of human rights.

Portugal commends Italy for its achievements on the promotion and protection of human rights, being the *quasi total* implementation of the recommendations received during the first UPR a clear proof of the Governments commitment on that regard. Portugal particularly praises Italy for the priority given to the protection of the rights of migrants and for the comprehensive policies and courageous measures adopted so far.

Portugal welcomes that the National Office against Discrimination has been strengthened, being responsible, since 2013, for the protection against all forms of discrimination, including multiple discrimination. We would like to ask the Delegation if it can provide further information on concrete measures already taken by the Office.

Portugal welcomes the internal steps already taken towards the creation of a National Human Rights Institution and would like to recommend that Italy concludes, as a matter of priority, the process leading to the establishment of a NHRI, with a broad human rights mandate, in full compliance with the Paris Principles (A status).

Portugal would also like to recommend that Italy ratifies the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

Finally, we recommend that Italy considers developing Human Rights Indicators as suggested by the OHCHR as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies.

Thank you Mr. President.