

Mr Ioannis Tsouzis

**UPR 21<sup>st</sup> Session  
(Geneva, 19-30.01.15)  
Review of Kuwait  
Intervention by Greece**

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Thank you Mr President,

We would like to warmly welcome the Delegation of the State of Kuwait to the 21<sup>st</sup> UPR Session and to congratulate it on the progress achieved in the field of human rights, since the first UPR cycle, as highlighted in the national report.

We note with appreciation several developments with regard to the rights of women, especially in women empowerment in the labour market, public administration and education. In this respect we would like to kindly request more information the concrete objectives for women empowerment through the State's Development Plan 2015/16-2019/20.

We congratulate the State of Kuwait on the decision to establish a Human Rights Office in a manner consistent with the Paris Principles relating to the status of National Human Rights Institutions. We would like to have an update on any recent developments in this respect. We would also be interested to know how this Institution will relate to the work of existing mechanisms such as the National Assembly's Committee for the Defence of Human Rights which, *inter alia*, receives complaints and observations concerning human-rights related practices.

Greece has the following recommendations :

- to take further legislative and other steps to enhance women's rights and consider Kuwait's accession to the Optional Protocol to CEDAW as well as the withdrawal of its reservations to this Convention,
- to take all the necessary measures to complete the process of establishing a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles,
- to reinstate the *de facto* moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition.

Finally, we would like to wish every success to the Delegation of Kuwait in their constant efforts to further enhance the protection of human rights in their country.

Thank you Mr President