



Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt

The Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review Twenty Second Session

Review of Croatia

(Geneva, 12th May 2015)

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Mr. President,

My delegation extends a warm welcome to the high level delegation of Croatia. We wish the Croatian Government a very successful and productive review.

We acknowledge several positive developments in institutional and legislative reforms and policy implementation that took place in Croatia since its last review. In this regard, we welcome the efforts of the Government in eliminating sexual violence including through the new protocol on procedures in the cases of sexual violence, combating hate speech particularly against ethnic and religious minorities, enhancing availability and quality of legal aid in the context of the judicial system, the upgrade of the National Human Rights Institution and combating and prevention of torture and ill-treatment in detention centers.

Egypt commends the strides by Croatia in ensuring better representation of women in political and public life. According to IPU factsheets, Croatia is one of ten countries only around the world where the head of the State is a Woman.

My delegation takes note of the "National Employment Incentive Plan 2011-2012". Egypt recommends Croatia to continue to realize the right to work for its citizens including through providing opportunities for vocational training and technical education for young people.

Moreover, Egypt presents the following two recommendations for the kind consideration of the Government of Croatia:

- 1- To work towards more balanced geographical coverage of healthcare services with specific focus on rural areas.
- 2- To continue ensuring the full realization of the right to safe drinking water and sanitation for all.

I thank you.