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Italian Intervention

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**UPR - CROATIA
(12 May 2015)**

Thank you Mr. President,

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Croatia, and thank them for their presentation and report.

Italy commends the Government of Croatia for the adoption of the "Protocol on procedures in the case of sexual violence" However, in order to improve the protection of women's rights, Italy recommends to enhance efforts to fight all forms of discrimination against women and gender-based violence. Italy also recommends to ensure rapid ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.

Italy takes note of the existing legal framework to protect the rights of persons belonging to minority groups and expresses its satisfaction for the level of protection and integration enjoyed by the Italian autochthonous minority in the Istrian county. Along these lines, Italy recommends to enhance efforts to fight discriminatory attitudes and behaviours against all persons belonging to minority groups, including by allowing the use of one's own language at school and in interaction with the public administration.

I thank you