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**Albanian Statement
on UPR-Austria**

Mr. President,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the delegation of Austria for presenting their comprehensive national report today.

Albania welcomes the report of the Austrian Government particularly on their recommendations made during the first UPR cycle, specifically those dealing with the comprehensive administrative reform, which became effective on 1 January 2014. Since the last UPR in 2011, Austria has become a signatory party to several international human rights conventions like the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.

In this regard, we would like to commend the effective measure taken by the Austrian Government to the Ombudsman, extending its mandate to the preventive monitoring of public and private institutions, whenever deprivation of personal liberty occurs.

While encouraging the Austrian Government for further improvements with regard to Human Rights, Albania has the following recommendations:

1. To undertake measures in building an equal and adequate pension system mainly for women`s childcare;
2. To improve the situation of asylum seekers and guarantee their rights to an adequate standard of living and remedy their housing conditions.

Albanian would once again like to commend the Austrian Government for the overall progress achieved and wish her a successful review session.

Thank you!

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COUNSELLOR