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**Statement by Pakistan for the UPR of Austria**

(23rd Session of the Working Group on UPR)

9 November 2015

Mr. President,

My delegation would like to thank the delegation of Austria led by Minister of Justice, Mr. Wolfgang Brandstetter for the presentation of its 2nd national report on UPR.

We take note with appreciation of the efforts of Austria for the protection and promotion of human rights in the last 4 years. We commend the ongoing national legislation for strengthening protection of human rights as well as ratification of international human rights instruments. In this regard, we would like to recommend the following:

1. Criminalize hate speech and incitement to hatred which leads to imminent violence;
2. Prosecute perpetrators of hate crimes and xenophobic acts and prevent misuse of Information and Communication Technologies for this purpose;
3. Eliminate discrimination against Roma and other minorities, including Muslims in law and practice and protect their rights;
4. Withdraw reservations from ICCPR, ICERD and CAT; and
5. Protect rights of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in accordance with international human rights standards with the view to combat discrimination against them.

I thank you.