

Check against delivery**Italian intervention**

**UPR – Lebanon
2 November 2015**

Thank you, Mr. President

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

Italy appreciates the efforts made by Lebanon to promote and protect human rights and to address the challenges stemming from the political instability and the financial pressure weighing on governmental institutions. The high number of international conventions ratified by Lebanon confirms its commitment towards human rights.

In particular, Italy commends the Government of Lebanon for the huge efforts made to assist and host refugees and IDPs from Syria and Palestine. Enormous challenges are associated with the current situation. In this respect, Italy recommends to improve access to quality education, health and social services, in particular for children and women.

As far as gender issues are concerned, Italy welcomes the progress made in the field of the protection of women and other family members from domestic violence. Italy recommends to effectively implement Act No.293/2014 and to amend relevant provisions in family law in order to ensure equality between women and men. Italy also recommends to adopt a National Action Plan to encourage women's participation in political and public life.

Moreover, Italy recommends to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and to effectively implement the relevant National Plan in order to make the education system open and inclusive for children with disabilities.

In the end, Italy welcomes the de facto moratorium on capital executions and recommends to abolish the death penalty and to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.

I thank you