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Italian intervention

**UPR – Oman
5 November 2015**

Thank you, Mr. President.

We welcome the distinguished delegation of Oman, and thank them for the presentation of their National Report.

Italy commends Oman for the progress made to improve the human rights situation in the country since the first UPR. In particular, Italy welcomes the commitment of Oman to ratify the International Covenant on economic, social and cultural rights (ICESCR) and the ongoing review of the International Covenant on civil and political rights (ICCPR). We also acknowledge the efforts undertaken to strengthen women empowerment and we welcome the promulgation of Royal Decrees 22/2014 and 38/2014 providing equal rights for men and women.

We encourage Oman to continue its efforts to guarantee the protection of human rights for all and we would like to make the following recommendations:

- to ratify the two 1966 Covenants and their Optional Protocols;
- to further revise the current legislation on personal status, nationality, employment and education in order to reinforce non-discrimination against women;
- to adopt legislation to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence;
- to continue to make efforts to eliminate FGM by enacting legislation which prohibits this practice and adopt a National Action Plan to increase awareness among women of the harmful consequences of the FGM practice;
- to adopt a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to abolishing capital punishment in national legislation.

I thank you