

PERMANENT MISSION OF AFGHANISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE 24th Session of the UPR Working Group

Universal Periodic Review - Belgium

20 January 2016

Thank you Mr. Wee-President

Afghanistan welcomes the distinguished delegation of Belgium to the 24^{th} session of the UPR Working Group and thanks the head of the Delegation for the presentation of its well elaborated National Report.

Afghanistan commends all the efforts undertaken by Belgium to ratify the International convention for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance and the optional protocol to the International convention on economic, social and culture rights.

Afghanistan further notes with appreciation that Belgium has considered a comprehensive and coordinated strategy to combat gender based violence by offering training programs on gender based violence to judges, police officers and other professionals in different fields.

While appreciating the progress already made, Afghanistan wishes to recommend Belgium to reconsider all its policies in relation to refugees and asylum seekers so that they are not deprived from their fundamental and social rights, in particular to ensure that children and unaccompanied minors are not detained or placed in adult detention centers.

With this in mind, my delegation wishes the delegation of Belgium a successful UPR review.

Thank you Mr. Wee President