

13

**Albanian Statement
on UPR-Belgium**

Mr. President,

I would like to express a warming gratitude - to the delegation of Belgium for presenting their comprehensive national report today.

We would like to commend the effective measures taken, by the Belgium Government for implementing the recommendations made during the first cycle of UPR, in particular at the legislative level, where there have been several advances in terms of ensuring equality.

In this regard, gender identity and gender expression have been integrated in the protection measures together with the regulations against discrimination. The Civil Code was amended in June 2014 to ensure equality of men and women in the mode of transmission of the family name to the child, including the adopted child, while the relevant legislation tackling sexism, came into force in August 2014.

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

1. To ratify the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence,
2. To ensure that migrant women could seek protection from domestic violence and halt deportation procedures in this context.

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

Thank you!

H.E. FILLORETA KODRA