



Permanent Mission of Italy to the
International Organizations in Geneva

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UPR – Samoa

3 May 2016

Thank you, Mr. President.

We warmly welcome the distinguished delegation of Samoa and thank them for their national report and presentation.

Italy welcomes Samoa's commitment to the UPR and the progress achieved since its first cycle. We particularly welcome the measures taken in order to further promote and protect women's rights, such as the adoption of the Family Safety Act and the creation of a Specialist Family Violence Court. Italy also believes that the introduction in the penal code of the crime of marital rape is a clear demonstration of the relevance that Samoa attributes to combating violence against women. In order to deepen progress on this matter, Italy **recommends** to promote awareness-raising campaigns aimed at preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. We also **recommend** to ensure that women victims of violence receive appropriate help and perpetrators are brought to justice.

Believing that education is crucial in order to promote sustainable development and human rights, we commend Samoa for the results achieved in this field, especially those concerning compulsory education. Italy **recommends** to ensure effective implementation of the 2009 Education Act and also to develop a national strategy to reduce dropout rates and to address cases of school-aged children working as street vendors.

We take note with appreciation of the measures aimed at enhancing the respect of the rights of persons with disabilities, and **recommend** Samoa to ratify the CRPD. We also **recommend** to sign and ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.

We wish Samoa a successful UPR.

Thank you.