

Statement by H.E. Archbishop Ivan Jurkovič, Permanent Representative of the Holy See to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva at the United Nations Human Rights Council - 26th Session of the Universal Periodic Review

**Republic of South Sudan**

*7 November 2016*

Mr. President,

The Holy See welcomes the Delegation of South Sudan on the occasion of the presentation of its second National Report to the Universal Periodic Review.

My Delegation acknowledges the various efforts made by South Sudanto guarantee better the effective implementation of Human Rights through the ratification of the Convention against Torture. We are glad to note the enactment of the National Security Service Act, the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the development of the National Housing Policy.

My Delegation would like to present the following recommendations:

1. To make every effort to stop violence and the forced recruitment and use of minors as combatants.
2. To continue efforts to strengthen the commitment to the *“Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan”* by returning to a complete ceasefire as soon as possible.
3. To reinforce policies to protect the fundamental rights of internally displaced persons.
4. To continue efforts to improve conditions of detention, and to abolish the death penalty, with a view to commuting all death sentences.

Thank you, Mr President