

*Permanent Mission of Italy to the*

*International Organizations in Geneva*

*Check against delivery*

**UPR – Syria**

**31 October 2016**

Thank you, Mr. President.

We deplore and condemn in the strongest terms the gross and systematic violation of human rights in Syria, and we hold the Syrian government as the primary responsible for this intolerable situation. We are extremely concerned about the gross violations perpetrated in Aleppo, and the latest escalation in the city. We call on all parties to refrain from attacking residential areas and civilian targets, and we support to the UN regarding the efforts to establish a sustainable ceasefire in Aleppo.

We recommend:

1. to end the indiscriminate bombing of residential areas, and the targeting of civil facilities, including schools and hospitals.

2. to immediately open humanitarian access and to unconditionally permit the access of the UN CoI to Syria.

3. to cooperate with the UNSE in order to immediately establish a negotiated and sustainable ceasefire in Aleppo.

I thank you.