**Statement by Hungary on Ecuador**

**27th Session of the UPR Working Group, 1 May 2017**

**Mr. President,**

Hungary welcomes the delegation of Ecuador and expresses thanks for the detailed national report and update. We welcome the openness of the Government regarding human rights mechanisms in general and recommendations of the second cycle in particular. We acknowledge all the progress made so far and encourage to follow-up on all recommendations.

**Hungary recommends** that the Government

* ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure;
* ensure its legislation being in line with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;
* guarantee a favourable environment for the work of all civil society actors active in the field of protection and promotion of human rights.

Hungary welcomes that the Government makes significant efforts in education that is the key for the well-being of future generations, and notes with satisfaction that the enrolment of girls in education has increased recently.

As the main sponsor of the resolution on the independence of the judiciary, we would like to draw attention to the positive approach of the Government of Ecuador to accept the recommendation during the second UPR cycle to continue the reform of the judicial system to guarantee and strengthen the independence of the judiciary.

Hungary is concerned however by the persistence of deep-rooted social and cultural stereotypes underpinning discrimination against women, including the existing wage gap. We encourage Ecuador to train people working in the media to combat gender stereotypes and to promote access to formal employment for women. We commend the Government for making important highly symbolic steps, like alternating female and male candidates on multi-person electoral lists.

Finally, we are looking forward to a close cooperation with the incoming Ecuadorian government. We welcome the readiness of Ecuador for an open dialogue in the spirit of mutual respect as stated by President elect Moreno.

**Thank you, Mr. President!**