

*Permanent* *Mission of Italy to the*

 *International Organizations in Geneva*

*Check against delivery*

**UPR – India**

**4 May 2017**

**Delivered by Mr. Massimo Baldassarre, First Secretary**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Italy welcomes the distinguished delegation of India and we thanks them for the presentation of the report.

Italy warmly welcomes India’s strong commitment to the UPR and commends efforts towards socio-economic development and poverty eradication as well as steps taken to favor access to justice and to fight human trafficking.

Italy encourages India to continue its efforts and recommends to:

• Establish a de jure moratorium of capital executions and commute the existing death sentences with a view to fully abolish the death penalty;

• Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;

• Abolish anti-conversion laws and grant access to justice to victims of religious violence and discrimination;

• Reinforce the legal framework for the prevention of violence against women, including running a national awareness campaign and ensuring comprehensive investigation and prosecution in cases of domestic violence.

We wish India a successful UPR.

I thank you.