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| **UN Human Rights Council**  **UPR 27th session** |  |
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**Statement by Sweden in the interactive dialogue on Indonesia**

**(***1 min 05 sec)*

Mr President,

Sweden wishes to welcome the delegation of Indonesia.

**Sweden recommends the Government of Indonesia:**

1. That the moratorium on executions be reintroduced immediately with a view to abolish the death penalty.
2. To ensure that national and regional laws and policies do not discriminate against any individuals in society, including LGBTI persons, and are in line with Indonesia’s international obligations, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
3. To safeguard and expand religious freedom by revising national legislation so that it recognizes and protects all forms of religion or belief, theistic, atheistic and non-theistic, as set out in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including for those outside the six officially recognised religions.
4. To introduce legislation to repeal the blasphemy law of 1965.

Our recommendations are made on the basis of the following considerations:

Sweden is concerned about Indonesia’s use of the death penalty. Since its last UPR, Indonesia has resumed executions. From March 2013 onwards, a total of 23 persons have been executed.

Although same-sex sexual relations are not criminalized in Indonesia, there are no national laws specifically protecting LGBTI persons against discrimination. Discriminatory provisions exist in, for example, the Anti-Pornography Law containing specific discriminatory language against homosexuality, as well as in local laws.

During 2016, the human rights situation for LGBTI groups in the country deteriorated after high-ranking Indonesian officials made inflammatory anti-LGBTI statements fueling increased hostilities towards LGBTI people, ranging from crackdown of LGBTI-friendly events to more subtle harassment and discrimination of LGBTI individuals.

Indonesia is party to several human rights treaties that includes obligations to protect against discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

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Although Sweden commends Indonesia’s general commitment to pluralism and religious tolerance, we recommended stronger efforts – to ensure that attacks against persons belonging to religious minorities are thoroughly investigated, and that those responsible for such attacks are brought to justice – during Indonesia’s previous UPR.

Since then, the number of violations against freedom of religion has increased in Indonesia, according to national and international organisations. Various religious communities, including Gafatar and Ahmadiyya, continue to face harassment, intimidation, and violent attacks.

Religious minorities in Indonesia face discriminatory regulations, and are neither properly recognized nor protected in the Indonesian constitution. Indonesia has an obligation under Article 18 in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to safeguard everyone’s right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

I thank You Mr. President