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**46th SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF AFGHANISTAN**

**29 April 2024**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

Mister President,

We thank the Permanent Mission of Afghanistan for preparing and presenting their national report. We strongly condemn the systematic violations of human rights presented in the report, in particular of women and girls, persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, human rights defenders, journalists and other media workers, former security forces and politicians.

We particularly condemn the large-scale and systematic gender-based discrimination of women and girls, as well as public executions carried out in Afghanistan, which are degrading and contradictory to human dignity, as per articles 6 and 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Therefore, we have following recommendations:

1. Fully adhere to all the international human rights instruments to which Afghanistan is a state party.
2. Ensure full, equal and meaningful participation of all Afghans, including women and girls and persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities in all spheres of life.
3. Resume the cooperation with the ICC, on the basis of the 2018 Law for cooperation with the ICC.
4. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol on the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming towards the abolition of the death penalty.

Thank you.