**UPR Working Group**

**46th Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Afghanistan**

(*Geneva, 29 April 2024)*

Thank you, Vice-President,

The Republic of Moldova welcomes the delegation of Afghanistanand expresses appreciation for the presentation of the national report.

We commend the initial steps taken to ensure the implementation of the recommendations received during the 3rd cycle of the UPR, namely the elaboration of the Action Plan by the relevant national institutions back in 2019.

Yet we regret that this process was discontinued and are deeply worried that the human rights situation in the country has deteriorated since August 2021. Therefore, and same as many delegations in this house, Moldova recommends:

1. To develop and implement policies that guarantee the rights and non-discrimination of women and girls, including access to justice and education, meaningful participation in all aspects of life, stopping harmful processes against women and girls and combating gender-based violence.
2. To enact the legislation that enshrines and ensures respect for the fundamental freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly and release all those detained solely for the exercise of these rights.
3. To establish a moratorium on executions, with a view of legislatively abolishing the death penalty, and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.

We wish the delegation of Afghanistan a successful UPR cycle.

Thank you.