**Statement by Romania**

**The 46th session of the UPR Working Group: Review of Afghanistan**

**April 29th, 2024**

Mr. President,

Romania welcomes the presentation of the report by the delegation of Afghanistan.

We are gravely concerned with the ongoing and widespread violations and abuses of human rights in Afghanistan and the annihilation of the institutional protection of these rights, especially in relation to women and girls. The consequences of the intersecting discrimination women and girls are subject to are devastating. Afghanistan is failing to abide by its commitments under the international human rights law in an unprecedented manner, with an abhorrent attack on the rights of half of its population.

Romania would like to make Afghanistan the following **recommendations**:

1. Stop gender-based discrimination, by putting an end to all discriminatory restrictions targeting women’s and girls’ rights, both in law and practice, in line with Afghanistan’s obligations under CEDAW;
2. Facilitate the provision of humanitarian aid to those in need, particularly by delivering assistance to women and women-headed households;
3. Ensure the protection of the rights of the child, by preventing sexual violence and harmful practices against children and child recruitment, as well as granting equal access to education for all;
4. Establish a moratorium on executions, with a view of abolishing death penalty, and commute existing sentences of capital punishment.

Thank you, Mr. President!