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

**REVIEW OF NORTH MACEDONIA**

**2 May 2024**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

Mr. President,

Croatia welcomes the delegation of North Macedonia and thanks them for the presentation of their report.

We welcome the increase of funds provided by North Macedonia for the functioning of the Ombudsperson’s Office and its appointment as a national body for the prevention of torture. We encourage North Macedonia to strengthen further its human and technical capacity to promote and protect women’s rights.

We take note of the future opportunities in bringing the Law on Primary Education and Concepts on inclusive education in full alignment with the CRPD, including by enhancing accessibility to facilities and assistive technology.

We have three recommendations:

1. **Adopt measures to ensure a full implementation of the child rights legislation as well as its dissemination and training of those working for and with children.**
2. **Effectively engage with civil society organizations working on the issue of persons with disabilities in the process of development and implementation of legislation and strategies regarding inclusive education.**
3. **Ensure that state policies and programs promote the access to fundamental services such as healthcare, education, social services and infrastructure in rural areas.**

Croatia wishes North Macedonia a successful review session.

Thank you.