**UPR Working Group**

**47th Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of Albania**

(*Geneva, 04 November 2024)*

*1 min 35’*

Thank you, Mr. President,

I would like to welcome the distinguished delegation of Albania to the UPR Working Group and thank them for the presentation of the National Report.

We commend Albania for its determination to continue efforts to advance respect human rights. We welcome the progress made in the field of gender equality, including the application of gender-responsive budgeting and ensuring women’s participation in governing and decision-making bodies.

We further positively note the improvements made to legislation on anti-discrimination and on gender-based violence, as well as the ratification of the ILO Convention no. 190 “On Violence and harassment”.

Considering the progress made by Albania, we would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Ensure the effective implementation of the National Agenda for Children's Rights 2021-2026 with further efforts of tackling early marriages, including by developing relevant awareness-raising campaigns and programs and establishing protection schemes for victims of child marriage who file complaints;
2. Strengthen existing measures, such as building new prisons, to tackle prison overcrowding in a sustainable way.
3. Consider the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on the Avoidance of Statelessness in relation to State Succession.

Finally, I wish the Albanian delegation a successful UPR cycle.

Thank you.