**UPR48 – Islamic Republic of Iran**

**24th January 2025**

Statement by Mr. Bernard Charles Mifsud, Counsellor, Permanent Representation of Malta to the UN, Geneva

*Check against delivery*

Thank you, Mr. President,

We take note of Iran’s national report to this UPR session.

Malta is gravely concerned about the deteriorating human rights situation in the country, in particular the crackdowns on women and girls choosing not to abide by the compulsory veiling laws since 2022 and the death of Ms. Masha Amini. Iran’s frequent and increasing use of the death penalty, as well as other forms of cruel and inhuman methods of punishment are matters of grave concern.

Malta would like to present the following recommendations:

1. Ensure full cooperation and access to the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation on Iran and the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Iran set up by HRC Resolution S35/1.
2. We reiterate our recommendation from the 3rd cycle, accepted by Iran, to ensure that all individuals in custody receive adequate health care and treatment, including preventive measures, such as screening for medical conditions, free of charge and without discrimination.
3. Abolish all instances of the death penalty in all relevant legislation.
4. Ensure that the rights of all minorities, in social and religious life, are fully protected.
5. Repeal the Law on Protecting the Family through the Promotion of the Culture of Chastity and Hijab.
6. Ratify all outstanding human rights conventions, including the Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (CED).

I thank you Mr. President.