

**Statement by Mr. Paras PANDIT, Minister Counsellor**

**48th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**UPR of the Iran (Islamic Republic of)**

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**Mr. President,**

Nepal welcomes the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the fourth cycle of UPR and thanks them for presenting the national report.

We take positive note of Iran’s several initiatives to ensure right to political participation, peaceful assembly, and association.

Equally noteworthy is the significant increase in the number of female students, which increased by 115% in primary school and by 84% in high school.

In a constructive spirit, we recommend Iran, the following:

1. Continue efforts to improve food security and healthcare services.
2. Consider efforts toward ending child marriage.
3. Continue efforts to increase political participation of women.
4. Redouble efforts to establish a National Human Rights Institution in line with the Paris Principles.

We wish Iran a successful review.

**I thank you.**