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**48th SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF ITALY**

**20 January 2025**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

Mr. President,

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

We welcome concrete policies taken by Italy to ensure gender mainstreaming in all actions and measures related to women empowerment and gender equality, as described in the report. Croatia encourages Italy to continue addressing throughout the country a high prevalence of gender-based violence against women and girls.

We also welcome the steps taken by Italy in order to strengthen the rights of persons with disabilities and the provision of incentives to employers to hire women with disabilities in particular.

We have three recommendations:

1. **Reinforce the implementation of the normative framework aimed at preventing, combating and punishing all forms of violence against women.**
2. **Ensure that educational facilities, including elementary, high school and university buildings are accessible for children and young persons with disabilities.**
3. **Provide increased financial and administrative support for programs aimed at preserving, promoting and developing the culture and language of minorities in Italy.**

Croatia wishes Italy a successful review session.

Thank you.