**STATEMENT BY BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

**Review of Republic of Korea**

**28th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

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Mr. President,

Brunei Darussalam extends its warm greetings to the delegation of the Republic of Korea and appreciates the updates provided since its last review.

Brunei Darussalam commends the Government of the Republic of Korea for the great strides it has made in the promotion and protection of the human rights of its people, especially the vulnerable group.

We welcome the efforts made by the Government in building its social safety net to eradicate poverty. We are particularly pleased to note that the basic pension system, introduced in 2014, has provided stable income for more than 65% of its elderly population.

Furthermore, we appreciate the importance the Government of the Republic of Korea places on the right to education. Education in the country is compulsory until middle school, and it is worthy to note that the Government plans to expand compulsory education to high school.

In this regard, my delegation would like to make two recommendations:

1. To continue with its ongoing impressive efforts to ensure that the bottom 70% of the elderly aged over 65 are provided with basic income, as set out by its basic pension system.
2. To follow through the Government’s plans to expand compulsory education to high school.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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