

*Permanent Mission of Italy to the*

*International Organizations in Geneva*

*Check against delivery*

**UPR 28– Argentina**

**6 November 2017**

**Delivered by Mr. Massimo Baldassarre, First Secretary**

Thank you, Mr. President.

We welcome the distinguished members of the delegation of Argentina and we thank them for their national report and today’s presentation.

Italy welcomes Argentina’s commitment to the UPR and its efforts to improve the promotion and protection of human rights in the country. We particularly commend progress Argentina has made in recognizing differences and respecting the rights of vulnerable groups, while bearing in mind to ensure equality for all. In this respect, we appreciate the introduction, in 2016, of the “Argentina Teaches and Learns” National Strategic Plan aimed at upholding the right to education with a view to supporting equal opportunities for all.

We also commend efforts in addressing violence against women and, in particular, the adoption, in 2016, of the first National Action Plan for prevention, protection, assistance and eradication of such a form of violence.

Following the steps taken since its last UPR and considering the results achieved by Argentina after its previous UPR rounds, Italy would like to seize this opportunity to recommend Argentina to:

* *Continue efforts to improve penitentiary system conditions and to reduce episodes of violence in prison;*
* *Take further steps to remove obstacles that may occur in accessing reproductive health products and services, with special attention to women who have been victims of rape.*

We wish Argentina a successful UPR.

I thank you.