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**Statement by the State of Palestine at the Universal Periodic Review of Tajikistan, 4th of November 2021:**

Thank you, Madam President,

The State of Palestine welcomes the delegation of Tajikistan to the third cycle of the UPR and we thank them for the presentation of their national report. We commend the government’s commitment in implementing recommendations from the previous UPR cycle and the steps taken to promote and protect human rights in the country.

We welcome the steps taken by the government of Tajikistan in empowering women, including through adopting the 2019–2022 National Action Plan to implement the recommendations of the CEDAW, and **we recommend that the government take the necessary measures to accelerate equal representation of women in all areas of public and political life, particularly in decision-making positions.**

We also commend the efforts made by the government of Tajikistan in improving education, and **we recommend that the government continue its efforts in this regard, and to adopt policies to enhance inclusion in education for girls and children with disabilities and to increase the quality of education.**

We wish Tajikistan a successful review.

I thank you.