**41st SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF MAROCCO**

**7 November 2022**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

Mister President,

Croatia welcomes the delegation of Morocco.

While we commend the efforts in promoting women’s rights, we find worrying the reports on the high prevalence of violence against women, including sexual and digital violence that has increased during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We underline the need for advancing the efforts in safeguarding the rights of women and children and to adequately protect them from sexual abuse and harassment.

We have three recommendations:

1. Amend Family law to provide minimum marriage age of 18 in order to prevent child marriage;
2. Eliminate discrimination against women and girls in law and practice by ensuring equal access to divorce, matrimonial property and inheritance.
3. Criminalize marital rape in the Penal Code.

Thank you.