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

**REVIEW OF INDIA**

**10 November 2022**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

Mister President,

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

We welcome the Government’s efforts in improving overall human rights situation in the country.

However, we are concerned about the use of death penalty in recent years. We encourage the Government to take steps towards the moratorium on the use of death penalty and to ensure the respect of international standards that provide safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty.

We have three recommendations:

1. Address structural disadvantages faced by marginalised communities in accessing education, including Christian community.
2. Decriminalize defamation and libel and strengthen an independent broadcast media authority.
3. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

We wish the delegation of India a successful review session.

Thank you. Mr. President.