**Statement**

**By**

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**Before the 42nd session of the Working Group**

**on the Universal Periodic Review**

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**Review of Benin**

**Geneva, 26 January 2023**

**بسم الله الرحمن الرحیم**

**Mme. Vice-President,**

The Islamic Republic of Iran welcomes warmly the delegation of Benin and thanks them for their insightful national report.

Iran welcomes the efforts of Benin in implementation of its National Development Plan 2018–2025. We congratulate also the Benin government for creating its National Human Rights Commission.

In a constructive spirit, we would like to offer the following recommendations to Benin:

1. Continue its efforts to strengthen food security especially in the departments most affected by hunger and malnutrition,
2. Continue its efforts to combat underemployment, especially among youth and through creating and developing the digital job application platforms.

Finally, Iran wishes a successful review for Benin and its continued cooperation with UPR process.

I thank you Mme. Vice-President