**42nd SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF SWITZERLAND**

**27 January 2023**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

Mister President,

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

We commend Switzerland for its efforts in the field of the protection of the rights of the child. However the findings of the CRC (Committee on the Rights of the Child) on legal and social acceptance of corporal punishment of children are concerning.

Taking this into consideration, we draw attention to the Committee’s recommendations regarding the need for advancing the safeguarding of the rights of the child and to adequately protect them from all forms of abuse.

We have two recommendations:

1. Prohibit corporal punishment of children by law in all settings, including at home, in schools, childcare institutions, alternative care settings and penal institutions.

2. Develop a federal strategy and action plan for preventing, combating and monitoring all forms of violence and abuse against children, including sexual violence, bullying and violence in digital environment, with a particular focus on children in disadvantaged situations.

We wish Switzerland a successful review session.

Thank you.