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

**REVIEW OF REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

**26 January 2023**

**Statement by the Republic of Croatia**

Thank you Mr. President.

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

We welcome the 2018 decision by the Supreme Court to decriminalize conscientious objection to military service. However, we remain concerned about conditions and rights of persons performing alternative service, for example, not taking into account their personal health status.

The adoption of the Framework Act on Prevention of Violence against Women is also an important step forward.

We have the following recommendations:

1. Ensure that conscientious objectors to military service can carry out genuinely civilian and non-punitive alternative service without discrimination, by reducing the length of alternative service and expanding the places of possible service.
2. Continue the ongoing efforts to adopt a comprehensive Anti-discrimination Act that prohibits all forms of discrimination;
3. Introduce measures to increase public awareness and combat social controversies and stigma attached to victims of sexual violence.

We wish the delegation of the Republic of Korea a successful UPR session.

I thank you