Speaking time: 55 **s**

**Statement**

**By**

**Mr. Aliabadi**

**Deputy Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran**

**Before the 43rd session of the Working Group**

**on the Universal Periodic Review**

**(1st May – 12th May 2023)**

**Review of France**

**Geneva, 1st May 2023**

**بسم الله الرحمن الرحیم**

Mr. President,

We thank the France delegation for its presentation.

Expressing our deep concerns on the excessive use of force against protesters and the serious injuries inter alia the cases of blindness during the recent protests and among of many areas of concerns, we recommend the French government to:

1. Put an end to the excessive use of force against protesters and respect their right to freedom of expression,
2. End the illegal practice of refusing to provide shelter and welfare services to migrant minors specially in departments of Pas-de-Calais and Nord in which the situation is extremely worrying,
3. Stop the failure to repatriate French children who are in Syrian camps,
4. Combat the widespread racist discourse, especially the political leaders’ racist remarks against certain ethnic minorities including Muslims,
5. Enact legal measures to prosecute incitement to violence such as desecration of Holy Books, religious symbols, places of worship and revered personalities,
6. Eliminate the discriminatory practices against people of African descent with regard to their access to economic, social and cultural rights,
7. Implement the recommendations of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances especially with regard to women subjected themselves or their related to enforced disappearance and their vulnerability to sexual violence.

We wish France a successful review.

I thank you Mr. President