**30th SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF CANADA**

**Statement of Croatia**

Mr. President,

Croatia welcomes the delegation of Canada and thanks them for their presentation.

We commend the Government for assuming a lead role in advocating for gender equality and introducing an ambitious feminist international policy.

We welcome Canada’s full support of the UNDRIP and the development of the Recognition and Implementation of Indigenous Rights Framework. We regret however to see that many First Nations and indigenous communities continue to live without equitable access to quality health, education, adequate food and housing, as well as safe drinking water and suitable sanitation.

Croatia shares the concern of the *Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (2017)* regardingthe continuation of violence against indigenous women and girls, urging Canada to take immediate action. We find worrying the reports of systemic discrimination against indigenous women who experience higher rates of violence and are also subject to negative stereotyping and adverse living conditions.

Allow us to address Canada with two recommendations:

1. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (2006)**
2. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2008)**

Croatia would like to compliment the Government of Canada for the progress achieved and wish them a successful review session.

Thank you.