***Please check against the delivery***

**31st session of the UPR Working group**

**Consideration of the UPR Report of Malaysia**

**Statement by Pakistan**

**(November 8, 2018)**

Mr. President,

Pakistan welcomes the delegation of Malaysia and thanks the head of delegation for a comprehensive presentation of their national report.

We note with appreciation the efforts made by the Government of Malaysia for the empowerment of women and gender equality. In this regard increase in the percentage of women holding decision-making positions in the public sector from 18.8% in 2004 to 35.5% in 2017 is commendable.

My delegation recommends the Government of Malaysia to:

1. Continue undertaking efforts in addressing human rights issues in an institutionalized, systematic and holistic manner; and
2. Strengthen efforts to promote empowerment of women and gender equality with the objective of increasing their participation in decision-making
3. Expedite efforts for adoption of a Gender Equality Bill to balance the roles of men and women in the nation’s development

We wish the Government of Malaysia a successful review.

I thank you Mr. President.