

Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève

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| **WG UPR 31 – Malaysia**  **Belgian intervention**  8 November 2018 |

Mr. President,

Belgium welcomes the delegation of Malaysia and wishes it every success in the exercise of its third Universal Periodic Review.

We welcome the plans by the new Malaysian government in the field of human rights, in particular its announcement to abolish the death penalty. However, we are convinced that further steps could also be taken in the area of women’s and children’s rights.

Therefore, Belgium recommends to:

**R1** Review all relevant laws to set the minimum legal age for marriage for all males and females to 18 years old.

**R2** Amend all provisions of the federal Constitution that deny women equal rights with respect to the transmission of their nationality to their children.

**R3** Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

Thank you, Mr. President