**Statement of Hungary on Afghanistan**

**32nd Session of the UPR Working Group, 21 January 2019**

**Mr. President,**

Hungary welcomes the delegation of Afghanistan and thanks for the presentation of its national report. We commend that in April 2017, Afghanistan had lifted its reservation to the Convention against Torture and decided to ratify the Optional Protocol. However, we remain concerned that different forms of torture (beatings, electric shocks, sexual abuses etc.) are practiced on detainees in order to extract confessions.

In the 2014 UPR, Afghanistan accepted numerous recommendations on improving implementation of the 2009 Law on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (EVAW). Hungary finds it worrisome that violence against women in Afghanistan has not dropped and perpetrators have rarely been brought to justice, which shows a weakness in enforcing the law.

Ensuring equal access to education for women and girls is of crucial importance. Therefore, Hungary encourages the Afghan government to allocate an inclusive budget for education for all its citizens.

Finally, Hungary wishes to make the following specific recommendations to the government:

* Promptly and thoroughly investigate all allegations of torture of detainees and prosecute all those found responsible for committing and ordering these crimes;
* Promptly investigate and prosecute cases of violence against women;
* Take concrete steps to realize the right to education for girls by ending discriminatory practices.

**Thank you, Mr. President!**