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**32nd session of the UPR Working group**

**Consideration of the UPR Report of Eritrea**

**Statement by Pakistan**

(Monday January 28, 2019)

Mr. President,

Pakistan warmly welcomes the delegation of Eritrea and thanks it for providing an update on their national report and steps taken to advance human rights in Eritrea.

We note with appreciation the progress made through the National Indicative Development Plan (2014-18) to accelerate socio-economic progress and eradicate poverty. We also appreciate efforts made by the Government in education, health, political participation, improvement of justice system and food security. We welcome Eritrea-Ethiopia peace process and its possible impact on peace and stability.

My delegation recommends Government of Eritrea to:

1. Continue its efforts to strengthen the legal and institutional  tools to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights
2. Continue its efforts to promote religious freedom and harmony
3. Continue the efforts of strengthening the governance structure, in particular at the grass roots level;
4. Continue its efforts to achieve gender parity in all sectors, including in decision making positions
5. Continue its efforts to ensure access to education and basic health to all its citizens, particularly in rural areas

We wish Eritrea a successful review.

I thank you Mr. President.