Statement by the Republic of Lithuania

UPR32 – Afghanistan

21 January 2019

*(1 min 10 s)*

Thank you, Mr President.

Lithuania warmly welcomes the delegation of Afghanistan.

We recommend that Afghanistan:

1. Introduces effective measures to eradicate all forms of violence against women and girls including abolishing referral of such crimes to mediation, to ensure prompt investigation of violence and effective redress for victims.
2. Enhances its efforts to effectively implement UNSC resolution [1325 (2000)] on women peace and security and to ensure women’s full participation in peace process.
3. Takes measurable steps to prevent and end the recruitment of children and to ensure the accountability for all perpetrators.
4. Adopts specific measures to protect and support journalists, human rights defenders and other actors of civil society enabling them to work freely without fear of reprisals and attacks.
5. Further reduces number of crimes carrying capital punishment and considers the re-establishment of moratorium of death penalty.

[Lithuania welcomes Afghanistan’s efforts to strengthen its legislative and policy human rights framework. We welcome the adoption of some progressive provisions on the rights of women and children, the reduction the number of crimes punishable by death penalty and launching of national actions plans [*inter alia*, on women, peace and security, women economic empowerment and rights of persons with disabilities]. We urge the Government to implement them fully by taking all necessary actions.]

Lithuania wishes Afghanistan all success in implementing the UPR recommendations.

I thank you.