**32nd SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF COMOROS**

**25 January 2019**

**Statement of Croatia**

Mr. President,

Croatia extends its warm welcome to the delegation of Comoros and thanks them for the presentation of their report.

We welcome the positive achievements concerning Comoros’ efforts regarding the education strategy by guaranteeing better access and inclusion of all children in the school system. Several educational programmes and policies had been developed and put into effect in recent years, including the Education Transition Plan 2017–2020.

However, we regret to see that the corporal punishment still exists both in legislation and in practice. While the corporal punishment is prohibited as a sentence for a comitted crime, it is still lawful in the home, in alternative and day care settings, in schools and in penal institutions.

Therefore, allow us to address Comoros with two recommendations:

1. **To ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty**
2. **To enact legislation which explicitly prohibits corporal punishment of children in all settings, including in the home, and repeal all legal defences for its use**

Croatia would like to compliment the Government of Comoros for the progress achieved and wish them a successful review session.

Thank you.