

*Permanent Mission of Italy to the*

*International Organizations in Geneva*

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**UPR 33 – Brunei Darussalam**

**10 May 2019**

**Delivered by Ambassador Massimo Bellelli,**

**Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations in Geneva**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Italy welcomes the distinguished delegation of Brunei Darussalam and thanks for its national report and today’s presentation.

Italy appreciates the improvements Brunei Darussalam made since the last UPR cycle, including the ratification, in 2016, of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

Italy also appreciates the signature of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, in 2015, but expresses its deep regret for the entry into force of the new Penal Code Order, on last April, which contains punishments that are contrary to the provisions of the above mentioned Convention.

Italy seizes this occasion to present the following recommendations:

* *Repeal the Penal Code Order, in order for it to comply with international human rights law.*
* *Adopt a formal moratorium on the death penalty.*
* *Consider acceding to all the core human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party and ratifying the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.*
* *Guarantee effectively the freedom of religion or belief.*

Italy wishes Brunei Darussalam a successful review.

I thank you.