

*Permanent Mission of Italy to the*

*International Organizations in Geneva*

*Check against delivery*

**UPR 33 – Dominica**

**9 May 2019**

**Delivered by H.E. Ambassador Gian Lorenzo Cornado,**

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

Thank you, Mr. President.

Italy welcomes the delegation of Dominica and thanks for its national report and today’s presentation. Italy commends the commitment of Dominica to the UPR and appreciates the improvements achieved since the last cycle.

Particularly, Italy acknowledges the efforts of the Authorities of Dominica in tackling women and gender based violence thanks to amendment of the Sexual Offences and to the implementation, in cooperation with UN Agencies, of projects aimed at raising awareness on the matter as well as providing assistance to affected persons.

Italy appreciates the efforts of Dominica in the fields of education and health where access is provided on a free basis and with the aim to include the most vulnerable persons. In addition, all implemented measures aimed at reducing poverty and increasing social protection of elders and persons with disabilities need also to be mentioned as a further positive results.

Finally, Italy strongly commends the decision of Dominica to vote in favor of the last General Assembly resolution for moratorium on the use of the death penalty.

We seize this occasion to present the following recommendations:

* *Continue fighting against sexual violence, including domestic violence.*

* *Make further efforts to ensure the rights of the children are respected, including by taking measures against the use of corporal punishment.*
* *Reinforce the anti-discriminatory legal framework in order to provide for a strengthened protection of the rights of the LGBTI community.*
* *Consider adopting a de jure moratorium on the death penalty, with a view to totally abolishing it.*

Italy wishes to Dominica a successful review.

I thank you.