**33rd SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

**9 May 2019**

**Statement of Croatia**

Mr. President,

Croatia welcomes the delegation of Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) and thanks them for the presentation of their report.

We urge the Government of DPRK to grant immediate and unrestricted access to all UN Special Procedures who request to visit the country, including the Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.

Croatia is seriously concerned with widespread abuses and violations of fundamental rights such as right to life, the rights applicable to arrested, imprisoned, accused or convicted persons as well as the violations of personal dignity and liberty, the right to health and the right to freedom of movement.

Finally, we would like to encourage the Government to consider establishing a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

Allow us to address DPRK with three recommendations:

1. **Implement reforms recommended by UN special mechanisms.**
2. **Fulfill treaty obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and allow the population to exercise all civil and political rights, including freedom of expression, access to information and ability to travel.**
3. **Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and implement it into national law.**

Thank you.