Permanent Mission of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

33th Session of UPR Working Group

Statement at the 3th UPR of Bhutan

**Thank you, Mr. President!** 8.05.2019

Afghanistan welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Kingdom of Bhutan and thanks for its engagement with the UPR process.

We acknowledge that the Kingdom of Bhutan has accomplished various human rights targets since the last UPR cycle. We commend the government of Bhutan for undertaking policy and institutional initiatives to further improve the enjoyment of the right to quality and inclusive education through drafting the National Education Policy and the Bhutan Education Blueprint, as well as establishment of central schools and of Early Childhood Care and Development Centers. Furthermore, we take note of the progressive steps taken by the Kingdom of Bhutan in the promotion of women and children's rights including providing further technical and financial assistance to the National Commission for Women and Children.

My delegation would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Consider the ratification of the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education;
2. Continue its efforts to ensure that women have access to justice across the country, including establishing well-resourced and accessible specialized courts for women and children.

We wish the Kingdom of Bhutan every success in the UPR review.

**Thank you, Mr. President!**