**United Nations Human Rights Council**

**34st session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**Geneva, 4 - 15 November 2019**

**Intervention of the Republic of Albania**

**on the UPR of the Islamic Republic of Iran**

**8 November 2019**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Mister President,

Albania welcomes the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran and thanks it for presenting its third national report.

Albania would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Amend legislation and judicial procedures to ensure any religious group is not the subject of discrimination so that all religious groups receive the same treatment under the law;
2. Undertake far-reaching reforms of the legislation relating to the status and rights of women and amend legislation on the lawful marriage age to bring it to 18 years;
3. Impose an immediate moratorium on the execution of minors;
4. Establish a five-year moratorium to work progressively towards abolition of the capital punishment by allowing open and public debate on the question of the death penalty in Iran, with all actors in society;
5. Sign and ratify the Convention against Torture;
6. Continue constructive exchanges with the Special Rapporteur about human rights in Iran and cooperate with all special rapporteurs who wish to visit Iran.

Thank you, Mr. President.