**34th SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF EGYPT**

**Statement of Croatia**

Mr. President,

Croatia welcomes the delegation of Egypt and thanks them for the presentation of their UPR report.

Croatia would like to commend Egypt for the steps taken to implement recommendations received during the previous UPR cycle on the work and regulation of non-governmental organisations and associations. We hope the new law in this regard will be implemented in a way that will promote human rights and benefit the overall political process in Egypt.

Croatia welcomes the criminalization of Female genital mutilation (FGM) and the introduction of stricter penalties as well as the adoption of a National FGM Abandonment Strategy. We remain concerned however that the practice of FGM remains common and perpetrators are rarely prosecuted. Violence against women in general remains pervasive.

Amid reports of the increase of the use of capital punishment in Egypt we continue calling for a moratorium.

Mr President,

Allow us to address Egypt with two recommendations:

1. Establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty;
2. Introduce legal provisions to combat rape including marital rape and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence in line with international law and standards

Croatia would like to compliment the Government of Egypt for the progress achieved and wish them a successful review session.

Thank you.