**34 SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF FIJI**

**Statement of Croatia**

**November 6, 2019**

Mr. President,

Croatia welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Fiji and thanks them for the presentation of their report.

We commend the steps taken by the Government regarding the implementation of the recommendations from the second UPR cycle, especially the ratification of key international human rights instruments, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, as well as the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

We encourage the Government to take further measures in addressing the discrimination of women and girls in the country.

The remaining vulnerability of Fiji to trafficking in women and children, mainly for forced labour and sexual exploitation also needs to be addressed by the Government. Furthermore, in our view the level of adolescent birth rates is still rather high.

Mr. President,

We have two recommendations for Fiji:

1. To ratify all Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child in order to improve the implementation of the rights of the child in all settings;
2. To intensify efforts in child and women’s rights protection area, including in the education and health sector.

Croatia commends the Government of Fiji for the progress achieved and we wish them a successful review session.

Thank you.