UPR of Iraq

Mr. President,

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

We commend the ratification of several international human rights instruments and welcome positive developments in the electoral process, including reaching the constitutional female quota of 25% at the last elections.

We welcome the Government's engagement to address a number of challenges in the field of human rights and efforts to improve the present situation. However, numerous issues remain open.

We are gravely concerned by numerous human rights violations and abuses during the recent demonstrations in Baghdad and several southern provinces. We take note that the Governement acknowledged the excessive use of force by the security force and urge the Iraqi Government to bring to justice and prosecute the perpetrators responsible for the tragic outcome of the demonstrations.

We recommend to the Government of Iraq to:

1. establish a moratorium on the death penalty with a view to its abolition alongside ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR
2. adopt and implement a Law on Domestic Violence and change the law permitting honour as lawful defense for violence against women

Croatia wishes Iraq a successful review session.

Thank you, Mr. President