**Universal Periodic Review of the Islamic Republic of Iran**

**8th November 2019**

**Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia welcomes the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the UPR working group.

We regret the continuing non-cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iran and encourage Iran to act on its standing invitation and to cooperate fully with the Human Rights Council’s special procedures.

We would like to encourage the government to review the national legislation in order to eliminate all kinds of discrimination against girls and to eliminate child sexual abuse.

The reports on continuing crackdown on freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly and association are concerning. We call on Iran to fulfil its obligations under international law. We further urge Iran to end the censorship of information and closing of different websites and web addresses and to ensure freedom of expression both offline and online.

Estonia makes the following recommendations:

- ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC);

- extend a moratorium on executions, especially for juvenile offenders, with the view of progressively abolishing the death penalty;

- prohibit all forms of corporal punishment of children in all settings

- ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment **(**CAT**)** and its Optional Protocol(OP-CAT)

We wish the delegation of Iran a successful review meeting.

Thank you!