

Statement by H.E. Archbishop Ivan Jurkovič, Permanent Observer of the Holy See

to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva

at Human Rights Council – 35th Session of the Universal Periodical Review

**Guyana**

*Geneva, 29January 2020*

Mr. President,

The Holy See welcomes the Delegation of Guyana during the third cycle of the Universal Periodic Review and would like to offer the following recommendations:

* To continue the *de facto* moratorium of the death penalty, while working toward its abolishment from the criminal code;
* To ensure that the right to education is effectively offered to all, especially to children in rural areas, and that the rich patrimony of indigenous languages is preserved and transmitted;
* To work at improving the health care infrastructure, in all regions, especially access to pre-natal obstetric care, midwife training, and resources devoted to maternal health.

My Delegation expresses its support to those actions taken by the Government to ameliorate the living conditions of the people of Guyana and to foster social unity in its diverse composition.

Finally, my Delegation expresses to the Delegation of Guyana its best wishes for a successful UPR.

Thank you, Mr. President.