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**35th session of the UPR Working group**

**Consideration of the UPR Report of Spain**

**Statement by Pakistan**

(Wednesday, January 22, 2020)

Madam President,

Pakistan welcomes the delegation of Spain and thanks them for presentation of their national report.

We note the efforts made by Spain to integrate women into public, political and economic life and its good legal and institutional infrastructure for gender equality. However, we remain concerned at the difficulties faced by migrants, asylum seekers and refugees with regard to the enjoyment of their economic, social and cultural rights. We are also concerned that identity checks based on ethnic and racial profiling continue which must be put to an end.

Pakistan recommends Spain to:

1. Adopt a comprehensive law against hate crimes, providing for assistance and adequate protection and restitution to the victims;
2. Take concrete steps to protect the lives and rights of migrants, including asylum seekers and victims of trafficking in persons;
3. Review its laws to root out all cases of religious discrimination against members of religious minorities;
4. Repeal the Catalonian legislation on places of worship and bring current legislation in conformity with international human rights instruments *(pertaining to the protection of the right to freedom of religion or belief*), which includes the right to worship in community with others, in public or in private.

We wish Spain a successful review.

I thank you Madam President.