**35th SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF SPAIN**

**Statement of Croatia**

Madam President,

Croatia warmly welcomes the Delegation of Spain and thanks them for the presentation of their report.

We commend the Government’s commitment to non-discrimination on the basis of gender including the gender impact report accompanying each year’s national budget. Likewise, the gender balance in the composition of the new Government can serve as a role model for all of us.

Furthermore, we welcome the Government’s adoption in 2017 of the first National Covenant on Combating Gender-based Violence for 2018–2022. The Covenant covers legislative reforms, training, the recognition of the right to free legal aid and the empowerment of agencies providing assistance to victims.

We encourage the authorities to also adopt further measures in order to promote equal opportunities and equal treatment of women in employment, including career opportunities.

Madam President, allow us to address Spain with two recommendations:

1. **Provide effective training to judicial bodies in charge of investigating cases of gender-based violence, in line with the Basic Law on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender-Based Violence;**
2. **Adopt measures with the goal of combating horizontal and vertical segregation in employment.**

Croatia wishes the Delegation of Spain a successful review session.

Thank you.