**Statement by the State of Palestine at the Universal Periodic Review of Croatia, 6th of November 2020**

Thank you, Madam President,

The State of Palestine welcomes the delegation of Croatia and we thank them for the presentation of their national report.

We welcome the efforts made by the Government of Croatia since the last review to promote and protect human rights of the people.

We take note of the efforts made by the government to protect the human rights of refugees and in this regard **we recommended that the Government ensure effective access of persons in need of international protection to the territory and continue to follow up on reported incidents of mistreatment and excessive use of force at the borders.**

**We also recommend that Croatia strengthen oversight over Croatian companies operating abroad with regard to any negative impact of their activities on the enjoyment of human rights, particularly in conflict areas, where there are heightened risks of human rights abuses.**

We wish Croatia a successful review.

I thank you.