

Statement by Switzerland
UPR Session 2 - Working Group
Review of Pakistan

Thank you Mr. President,

Switzerland wishes to welcome the delegation of Pakistan, led by Ms. Fauzia Wahab, and recognises the double importance of her presence. Like the delegation, Switzerland is pleased to see the recent ratification by Pakistan of the international covenant on economic, social and cultural rights, and takes note of the signature of the international covenant on civil and political rights, and the convention against torture. On the basis of Pakistan's commitment in paragraph 41 of the compilation from the Office of the High Commissioner, Switzerland recommends to make every effort to ratify the international covenant on the economic, social and cultural rights, and the convention against torture. We have taken note with interest of the priority objectives described by Ms. Wahab, to promote women's rights. Switzerland also welcomes Pakistan joining the convention on the elimination of discrimination against women and to the legal provisions to strengthen these rights. On this basis, Switzerland particularly recommends to Pakistan to do everything possible to prevent early marriage and forced marriages and to recognise in its legislation rape within marriage. Switzerland recognises that Pakistan has a draft law on the protection of children and encourages it to implement it rapidly and to speed up the implementation of the 2000 edict of justice for minors. The death penalty is still broadly applied in Pakistan. Switzerland would be in favour of a universal elimination of this and recalling General Assembly Resolution of 18th December 2007, that recommends to Pakistan to declare immediate moratorium on all executions. And we would wish Pakistan to move towards abolishing the death penalty. Switzerland recalls that the fair trials are fundamental and recommends to Pakistan to respect these as diligently as possible.

I thank you

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