**ITALY**



***MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION***

***inter-ministerial committee for human rights***

**ITALY’S REPLY TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE QUESTIONNAIRE ON GENDER PARITY**

**HRC Resolution 41/6**

 *May 20, 2020*

**ITALY**

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Further to your query, by recalling our previous reply dated November 29, 2019, we are in a position to provide the following remarks, for your information only:

1. As per practice, Italy encourages consideration of gender balance when nominating, electing and appointing experts for human rights organs such as the Advisory Committee and treaty bodies. At present we do not have any woman expert within UN Treaty Body. However, Ms. Giammarinaro is currently holding the mandate of UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Human Beings. Over last five years, we have nominated five ladies.
2. More generally, we take into account the gender composition of the treaty bodies, the Advisory Committee and the UN Special Procedures.
3. More generally, Italy takes into consideration its obligations concerning non-discrimination and women’s right to equal access to participation, as well as its obligations under Article 8 of CEDAW to ensure women’s equal participation.
4. No challenge has to be reported with regard to the issue of gender balance when nominating and electing candidates for human rights organs and mechanisms such as the Advisory Committee, treaty bodies and the special procedures.
5. To conclude, women’s meaningful participation and representation are key issues and components of all processes, as evidenced by the Mediterranean Network of Women Mediators launched at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy in October 2017 within the framework of the last National Action Plan in accordance with UNSCR 1325(2000), on Women, Peace and Security, 2016 - 2020.