***Subject: Italy’s letter regarding the review process of the UN human rights treaty body system***

Excellencies,

Further to your letter dated 17 June 2020 requesting Member States to submit written contributions regarding the review process of the UN human rights treaty body system, I would like to express, at the outset, my gratitude for your leading work throughout this process.

Italy fully aligns with the European Union recent relevant submission.

In line with the EU’s indications, we would like to stress the importance of enhancing the standardization and harmonization of the procedures for reporting and follow-up as well as the aligning of working methods between the treaty bodies. In this sense, we encourage better coordination with regard to the list of issues presented to Member States as well as the sharing and enhanced use of best practices across the treaty bodies.

We also take this opportunity to stress the meaningful role of National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up. In this respect, we recall, as a way of examples, the work of Italy’s Inter-ministerial Committee for Human Rights (acronym in Italian, CIDU). Established in 1978, this is the main coordination body in Italy for integrated reporting to recommendations by UN human rights mechanisms. This was indicated, on the occasion of UPR-Third Cycle of Italy (November 2019), in Compilation of UN Information (UN Doc. A/HRC/WG.6/34/ITA/2, para.9) as “*internationally recognized as a best practice*”. According to this relevant Italian experience, we would like to underline the importance on NMRFs for the reinforcement of the Rule of Law.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.