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**Joint Statement
Organization for Defending Victims of Violence
Iranian Elite Research Center**

**Item 6: Consideration of UPR Reports
Norway**

Mr. President:

According to Norway national report and also by considering different recommendations made by states on Norway UPR working group session, two important issues are supposed to be the state of concern: Women and Minorities.

According to formal Norway statistics, the situation of domestic violence against women in Norway needs special attention. We not only ask the government to maintain a strong focus on the issue of domestic violence and implement systematic measures to protect the victims of domestic violence, but also urge Norway to strengthen its preventative measures in the areas of rape and domestic violence, developing effective policies and targeted prevention campaigns, education and awareness-raising among young people and adopting measures that are geared to changing the models and patterns that result in stereotyping of women in its society.

On minority issues, we believe that there are some alarming signs on the methods the government deals with these issues, specially on its Muslim society. We ask the government of Norway, while fully take into consideration the importance of this issue, Implement all necessary measures to eliminate discrimination faced by persons belonging to religious or ethnic minorities and persons with an immigrant background.

Also we urge the government to continue efforts to collect and generate true data on actual manifestations of racism and discrimination with a view of evaluating the situation regarding racial, ethnic and minority groups in Norway.

Meanwhile, we ask the government to pay special attention to these matters in the context of measures taken to counter terrorism, and pay closer attention to the rights of people belonging to religious minorities.

At the end, we have 2 specific suggestions regarding promotion and protection of Human Rights in Norway:

First) we ask the government to incorporate anti-discrimination provisions in its Constitution, especially relating to race, ethnicity or religion, to ensure the necessary protection for persons who would be mostly affected by those discriminatory practices.

Second) we propose Norway to incorporate both Convention on elimination of Discriminations against Women and International Convention on Elimination of Racial Discriminations in its Human Rights Act and program.

Thank You.