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ORAL STATEMENT
Item 6
Consideration of UPR reports: Italy

UN Human Rights Council
59th session
16 June – 9 July

Mr. President,

Italy continues to support Libya to prevent people from leaving that country despite overwhelming evidence of serious human rights violations against people disembarked there and during operations at sea.

Italy is also pursuing a scheme to transfer refugees and migrants looking for protection and a better life in Europe to detention centres in Albania, which infringes on the rights to life and physical integrity of people in distress at sea, and the rights to liberty, asylum, and an adequate remedy, of people transported to Albania. Following court rulings rejecting detention orders for people sent to Albania, in March 2025, Italy approved a decree allowing for people detained in Italy who are subject to an expulsion order to be forcibly transferred to Albania. The new decree provides no justification or criteria to guide decisions on transfers, making them arbitrary and discriminatory. It could also facilitate unsafe returns to countries of origin, disproportionately impacting racialized people.

We urge Italy to end the agreements with Libya and Albania and to focus on the implementation of the recommendations it accepted on migrants' and refugees' rights.¹ Regrettably, Italy has rejected recommendations to remove obstacles to human rights defenders' sea rescue activities. We urge the government to reconsider its position on these.²

Mr. President,

¹ Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Italy, UN Doc. A/HRC/59/4, 18 March 2025, Recommendation 34.10 (Iran); 34.17 (Canada); 34.83 (Ghana); 34.84 (Gambia); 34.85 (Vanuatu); 34.299 (Azerbaijan); 34.300 (Sudan); 34.301 (Ethiopia); 34.302 (Thailand); 34.303 (Türkiye); 34.305 (Kenya); 34.306 (Burkina Faso); 34.307 (Cameroon); 34.308 (Pakistan); 34.309 (Honduras); 34.317 (Luxembourg); 34.322 (Congo); 34.323 (Ecuador); 34.324 (Mozambique); 34.325 (Republic of Korea); 34.326 (Egypt); 34.327 (New Zealand); 34.328 (Togo); 34.329 (El Salvador); 34.331 (Kenya); 34.334 (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela); 34.335 (Uruguay); 34.336 (Yemen); 34.337 (Philippines)

² Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Italy, UN Doc. A/HRC/59/4, 18 March 2025, Recommendation 34.21 (Mexico); 34.94 (Costa Rica); 34.104 (Luxembourg); 34.107 (Ghana); 34.195 (Switzerland); 34.310 (Brazil)

Italy's acceptance of a recommendation to protect the right to freedom of peaceful assembly "by refraining from adopting legislation that criminalizes peaceful protest and legitimate acts of civil disobedience" rings hollow.³ In April 2025, Italy passed a decree which risks creating a hostile environment for demonstrators and activists.⁴ Five UN experts urged Italy to rescind the decree, which could lead to unlawful restrictions of rights, including to freedom of peaceful assembly, and to arbitrary and discriminatory prosecutions.⁵ Yet, the decree was converted into law in June 2025.⁶ Amnesty International urges Italy to repeal or amend the provisions of the decree that are not in line with its human rights obligations.

Finally, Italy must incorporate a consent-based definition of rape, in line with its international obligations. We urge Italy to reconsider its rejection of recommendations received on the matter.⁷

Thank you.

³ Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Italy, UN Doc. A/HRC/59/4, 18 March 2025, Recommendation 34.318 (Norway)

⁴ DECRETO-LEGGE 11 aprile 2025, n. 48, Disposizioni urgenti in materia di sicurezza pubblica, di tutela del personale in servizio, nonché di vittime dell'usura e di ordinamento penitenziario. (25G00060) ([GU Serie Generale n.85 del 11-04-2025](#))

⁵ [Italy: UN experts concerned by administrative enactment of problematic security bill | OHCHR](#)

⁶ LEGGE 9 giugno 2025, n. 80, Conversione in legge del decreto-legge 11 aprile 2025, n. 48, recante disposizioni urgenti in materia di sicurezza pubblica, di tutela del personale in servizio, nonché di vittime dell'usura e di ordinamento penitenziario. (25G00088) ([GU Serie Generale n.131 del 09-06-2025](#))

⁷ Human Rights Council, Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review: Italy, UN Doc. A/HRC/59/4, 18 March 2025, Recommendations 34.86 (Ireland), 34.87 (Costa Rica), 34.220 (Spain), 34.221 (Iceland), 34.235 (Belgium), 34.243 (Czechia)