



## **Item 6. General Debate: The Universal Periodic Review**

### **Organization for Defending Victims of Violence**

#### **UPR Mechanism and Civil Society Space**

**Mr. President,**

Now that the first two UPR cycles are closed and the third round has started, the Organization for Defending Victims of Violence (ODVV) which has been actively participating in HRC sessions for successive years would like to make a comment on the oral intervention registration process for NGOs in HRC interactive dialogues.

As it is known, the space for NGOs who take the floor in interactive dialogues is seriously limited and civil society members need to strongly compete against each other in order to be able to register their oral statements in the beginning of the list.

In the past, NGO members with physical strength and good running ability were able to take the chance of registering their oral intervention which would extremely discriminate against the applicants with a poor physical condition. Nowadays, thanks to the arrangements and decisions made by the Human Rights Council there is an online registration process which is more convenient than the old method.

However, there are ambiguities over the efficiency and fairness of the new online system. Cross-checking with other NGO members, within one country and among various counties have proven that an NGO which has registered within the first 20 seconds of the registration time is 20th in the oral intervention list while another NGO which has registered its intervention 10 minutes later ranks 4 in the same list.

**Mr. President**

ODVV urges the HRC secretariat to make clarifications on the NGOs ranking method in the lists of oral statements for interactive dialogues as soon as possible, so that the existing ambiguities are removed.

