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Statement at the 49th Session of the Human Rights Council

Agenda item 4 – Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on Iran

17 March 2022

H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger

Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mr. President,

Liechtenstein thanks the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

We are concerned about the continued situation of human rights violations and abuses as well as the prevailing culture of impunity in the country. In particular, reports of arbitrary deprivation of lives caused by state agents, arbitrary detention of human rights defenders and other civilians following unfair trials as well as the dire prison conditions are worrisome.

This overarching system of impunity has been dominating the legal and political system in Iran for several decades. We share the Special Rapporteur's concern over the long-

standing emblematic lack of accountability for events such as the summary and arbitrary executions of 1988 and the November 2019 protests. In many cases those killed were standing up for their fundamental rights such as the rights to freedom of expression, association or assembly. No person should ever be harmed when demanding the respect of his or her fundamental rights.

In order to ensure accountability, necessary tools should be offered on legislative, executive and judiciary levels. Thus, we urge the government of Iran to effectively strengthen the principles of rule of law and separation of powers which are fundamental for accountability.

Mr. President,

What can the international community do to ensure that these credible reports are further investigated and that perpetrators are held accountable?

I thank you, Mr. President.