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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

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Statement at the 50th Session of the Human Rights Council

Agenda item: 2 - Afghanistan

16 June 2022

Mr. Severin Hasler

Permanent Mission of the Principality of Liechtenstein

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Thank you, Mister President,

Liechtenstein wants to thank the High Commissioner for Human Rights for her oral update on the human rights situation in Afghanistan.

Regretfully, we continue to observe a deterioration of the human rights situation on the ground. In May, the Taliban manifested their disregard for human rights with the dissolution of the national independent human rights commission, an institution they deemed unnecessary. Simultaneously, the *Ministry for the Propagation of Virtue and the Prevention of Vice* continues to restrict women's rights and their little still existing civic space even further.

Women and girls are suffering disproportionately under these restrictive policies. Although the Taliban have repeatedly promised to better protect women's rights and grant women more rights, they continue to do the opposite. We condemn the exclusion of girls from secondary education and the almost total exclusion of women from professional and public spheres.

In addition, we are also concerned about the growing poverty in the country. Poverty has a ripple effect on many fundamental rights. The consequences, such as for example child marriage, are already on the rise.

In conclusion, I would like to stress the importance of accountability for all human rights violations committed in Afghanistan.

I thank you, Mister President.