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OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

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Statement at the 53rd Session of the Human Rights Council

Agenda item 3: Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on discrimination against women

23 June 2023

H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger

Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you, Mister President,

We thank the Special Rapporteur for her detailed and informative report on custody cases.

We share her concern about the underestimation and misunderstanding of domestic violence and its effects on and consequences for mothers and children. The duty to protect the child and act in their best interest should always be at the forefront of any judicial or other proceedings.

Gender stereotypes permeate all aspects of public and private life, including prejudices in the judicial systems, which can result in a denial of justice to persons who are victims of violence. Women from minority groups and those who are living in a lower socioeconomic status are disproportionately impacted and often feel a greater structural disadvantage.

We therefore urge all States to put in place a system providing free legal aid to women in need, especially to prevent that a lack of access to legal support leads to a secondary traumatization of victims.

I thank you, Mister President.