**46th Session of the Human Rights Council**

**Item 4 - Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur**

**on the Islamic Republic of Iran**

*9 March 2021*

**Statement by the Czech Republic**

Madam President,

The Czech Republic fully associates itself with the intervention on behalf of the EU.

We thank the Special Rapporteur Javaid Rehman for his report and presentation that provide detailed information on the human rights situation in Iran. We reiterate once again our full support to his mandate.

We take positive note of the Government’s engagement and the increased response to communications from Special Procedures. The Government’s dialogue with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is also encouraging. We believe that a Special Rapporteur’s country visit conducted based on unhindered access would be highly significant and would enable him to strengthen engagement with the authorities on human rights.

We are opposed to the death penalty in all circumstances and with no exception. It is a cruel and inhumane treatment. We are deeply concerned that Iran continues to execute juvenile offenders, in violation of its international obligations.

We are deeply committed to the protection and promotion of all human rights such as freedoms of opinion and expression, online and offline, as well as freedom of peaceful association and assembly. Therefore, we remain worried by the arrest, detention and harassment of human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists, writers, ethnic and religious minorities, labour rights activists, artists and environmentalists as well as by human rights violations in many other areas - including the persistent discrimination against women and girls in public and private life - as identified by the Special Rapporteur.

Thank you.