



37th Session of the HRC
Geneva, 15 March 2018
Item 6 – UPR outcomes Republic of Korea
Speaker: Joseph VEDOVA

Oral statement submitted by
IIMA – Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice
And co-signed by
**VIDES International – International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education,
and Development**
and
Good Neighbors International Geneva

Thank you, Mister President.

IIMA, on behalf of this NGO coalition, welcomes the Republic of Korea's promotion of children and youth through the National Youth Assembly.

However, we regret that, despite the acceptance of Recommendation 132.122, the Republic of Korea merely takes note of the other recommendations¹ concerning the establishment of a universal birth registration system for all children.² While considering the State's clarifications in paragraph 39 of the Addendum to the Report of the Working Group,³ we note with concern that children of migrant parents, who are neither refugees nor asylum seekers, are deprived of their right to birth registration in the Republic of Korea.

Additionally, we welcome the acceptance of recommendation 130.75⁴, as corporal punishment is still common in both domestic and educational settings.

In response, we call on the Republic of Korea to:

- Establish a universal birth registration system to ensure that all children have access to registration immediately after birth, regardless of the status of their parents.
- Effectively implement recommendation 130.75 to prohibit, by law and in practice, corporal punishment of children in all settings.

Thank you, Mister President.

¹Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review - Republic of Korea, UN Doc. A/HRC/37/15. Recommendations 132.118-121, 132.123 and 132.124

² Ibid

³A/HRC/37/15/Add.1

⁴ 130.75 Prohibit by law and in practice corporal punishment of children in all settings, including in orphanages and child welfare centres (Ecuador), Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review - Republic of Korea, UN Doc. A/HRC/37/15