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**Statement at the 30th Special Session of the Human Rights Council on the
situation in Afghanistan
24 August 2021**

H.E. Ambassador Kurt Jäger

Permanent Representative of the Principality of Liechtenstein

Thank you Madam President,

We are deeply saddened and shocked by the rapid deterioration of the situation in Afghanistan. We express our support to the Afghan people who are now suffering a serious setback in their painful struggle for peace, freedom, progress and prosperity.

We are furthermore deeply concerned by the UN reports about violations that could amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity. It is of utmost importance that international humanitarian law and human rights are respected under all circumstances.

We strongly condemn all attacks on women's and girls' rights, including the rights to work and to quality education, as well as all acts of violence committed against them. Women have been important agents for positive change in Afghanistan and must continue to participate actively in public and political life in all its aspects. We equally condemn all

attacks on the civilian population, including summary executions, attacks against current and former government officials, journalists, human rights defenders, civilians who have worked for foreign Governments in the country, as well as against their family members and relatives.

It is our joint obligation to stand in solidarity with the Afghan people, to insist on the full enjoyment of all human rights by all, and to ensure accountability for war crimes and crimes against humanity. In this respect, we would like to emphasize the importance of the on-going investigation by the International Criminal Court into the situation in Afghanistan covering all crimes against humanity and war crimes in Afghanistan since 2003.

I thank you, Madam President.