

Madam Chair,

Statelessness is the worst possible result of the violation of the right to a nationality. There is variety of circumstances such as discrimination, arbitrary deprivation of nationality, conflict of laws that give rise to Statelessness at birth or in a later life.

We still have countries that limit the right of mothers to confer their nationality on their children which can lead to statelessness if a child can not acquire the fathers nationality, for instance because he is stateless or unknown.

We call upon all states to raise awareness of statelessness and identify stateless populations, facilitate birth registration and other forms of civil documentation, increase access to naturalization or citizenship by eliminating discrimination in nationality laws and building administrative capacity for civil registration.

Since its independence Armenia has been making gradual steps towards the reduction of statelessness and according to the National Legislation a child born in Armenia shall acquire the citizenship of Armenia if the parents are stateless persons, or the citizenship of the parents is unknown.

In conclusion Madam Chair,

Armenia calls upon the States, which did not yet ratify the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness to make a big step and ratify such an important international document.

I thank you.