



## **32nd Regular Session of the Human Rights Council Item 2 & 3 HC/SG thematic reports– General Debate**

Mr. President,

Heart's Home Association and APG23 welcome the current discussion on the resolution on the Protection of the family concerning the role of the family in supporting the protection and promotion of human rights of persons with disabilities.

In the 10th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, it is important to recognize the role of the family in the protection of the rights of person with disabilities.

As the natural and fundamental group unit of the society, the family provides a favorable environment for the well-being and development of its members. The recognition of the role of the family enhances the right of each person and particularly ensures the protection of the most vulnerable people including persons with disabilities.

As Pope Francis recalls: “the family (...) is the community of love and life in which every person learns to relate to others and with the world”. The family is a strong force for integration and it ensures the full enjoyment of the rights of persons with disabilities.

Mr. President,

our organizations reiterate their support for the resolution on the Protection of the family. International human rights law clearly recognizes the key role of the family in social cohesion and affirms that the family is entitled to protection by States and by the all society.

In this regard, we regret that despite agreement on the importance of the role of the family in the society, problems of definition have prevented States to accept past resolutions on the protection of the family. We encourage Member States to adopt a constructive stance in the current discussions on the resolution on the Protection of the family that focuses on the role of the family in supporting the protection and promotion of human rights of persons with disabilities. We hope that, this time, the resolution will be adopted by consensus.

Thank you!