<u>UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW</u> <u>14th Session</u> 22 October – 5 November 2012

ARGENTINA

Madame President,

The Republic of Cyprus would like to thank Argentina for the preparation of a comprehensive national report covering the main issues at stake, and an indeed very informative presentation.

The reports which were provided as a background for today's review, noticeably demonstrate the emphasis given by the Argentine Government to human rights issues. The latter also becomes evident by the engagement of the Delegation of Argentina within the Human Rights Council.

The Delegation of the Republic of Cyprus wishes commend Argentina for its efforts to address impunity concerning violations of Human Rights of the past, and in, particular, the significant progress made as regards the persecution of military and police personnel for enforced disappearances, killings, and torture of the period between 1976 and 1983.

We note with satisfaction that Argentina makes a meaningful contribution to the development of the Right to the Truth as an autonomous right and to its dissemination and application around the world. In this regard, we would like to thank the delegation of Argentina for sponsoring a number of resolutions on the Right to the Truth, all of which have been adopted by consensus, including at the most recent 21st session of the Human Rights Council.

In concluding, the Republic of Cyprus would like to recommend that Argentina further strengthens its efforts on implementing the first cycle's recommendation no. 4 on the protection of witnesses and victims, and recommendation no. 5 on preventing delays of the ongoing human rights trials.

I thank you Madame President