

UPR 14 – Statement of the Czech Republic to Gabon

The Czech Republic appreciates the active participation of Gabon in 14th UPR and welcomes adoption of the Optional Protocol to the CAT as well as Gabon's new legal framework against child trafficking. We would like to ask if the delegation could elaborate further on measures against cases of harassment of journalists.

To encourage Gabon to continue in further enhancing the state of human rights in the country, the Czech Republic would like to make the following **recommendations**:

- 1) To adopt as a matter of priority legislative and other measures to guarantee gender equality and strengthen efforts to eradicate customs and traditions that discriminate against women, in particular cases of early or forced marriage.
- 2) To extend a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council and submit regular reports to the treaty bodies
- 3) And finally to adopt legislative and other measures to guarantee in law and practice protection of freedom of expression and independence of journalists.

Thank you.