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SWITZERLAND

G. Yiangou

Madame President,

The Republic of Cyprus would like to congratulate the distinguished Delegation of Switzerland for the comprehensive nature of its national report and for the high degree of commitment with which it has faced the Second Cycle of the UPR.

Cyprus wishes to commend Switzerland for the particular emphasis given to the human rights of children. In this context, we welcome the implementation by Switzerland of the Optional Protocol of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and for the signature of the Council of Europe's Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse. In turn, we would appreciate receipt of more information on the initiatives undertaken by Switzerland in order to ratify the aforesaid Convention.

Cyprus also welcomes the initiation of two national five-year programs by the Federal Social Insurance Office, that aim to protect young people from violence and from risks posed by the media.

In concluding, my delegation wishes to ask the following question: During the first cycle of UPR, it appeared that suicide among young persons was an issue of particular concern for Switzerland. In light of such considerations, what measures has the Swiss Government taken, after the first UPR cycle, at both federal and cantonal level, to address these problems and to strengthen preventive measures, with a view to reducing the number of suicides?

I thank you Madam President.