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Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt

**The Human Rights Council
Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
Fifteenth Session**

Review of Serbia

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Mission of Egypt

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Mr. Chair,

Egypt welcomes the high level delegation of Serbia to the 2nd cycle of UPR, and thanks its members for the thorough and insightful presentation.

We would like to congratulate the Government of Serbia on a handful of positive efforts exerted in implementing the outcome of the previous cycle of the UPR, and in protecting and promoting human rights in general. We are encouraged by the fact that Serbia has set up a multi-layer system of protection of human rights, that includes an "A" status ombudsman, that it ratified the CRPD, adopted a comprehensive package of legislative reforms in the area of judicial independence and administration of justice. We also commend Serbia for developing sound home-grown solutions to enhance the political representation and participation of women.

With regard to discrimination and racism, we believe that the relevant regulations and measures stipulated under the Serbian legislations on freedom of speech and political parties include numerous positive aspects, which could be shared with states that face challenges in the field of combating racism, discrimination, hate speech, and racial and religious incitement.

Finally, we would like to recommend the following to the Government of Serbia:

- 1) To consider finalizing the ratification process of the ICRMW.
- 2) To continue its effort to ensure the access of all citizens to safe drinking water and sanitation.
- 3) To consider enhancing national efforts in the area of Trafficking in Persons through adopting a definition for the sale of children and child pornography in the criminal code.

I Thank you.