

Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the UN, WTO and other international organization

**Statement of the Special representative – Ambassador to the UN HRC,
Zorica Maric Djordjevic**

Cape Verde UPR – April 23

Montenegro warmly welcomes head of delegation H.E. Jose Carlos Lopes Correia and the Cape Verde delegation. We support Cape Verde's commitments to the UPR process.

Montenegro commends a significant institutional strengthening and the overall progress of the country achieved between the two UPR cycles resulting in upgrading Cape Verde from the group of the least developed countries in 2008 to the lower-middle-income country.

We welcome that the Government has engaged in the broad consultation during the process of preparing its national report on human rights by means of dialog with all the segments of society, including various public institutions, civil society and NGOs.

Montenegro makes the following recommendations:

- **We call the Government to increase its cooperation with the treaty bodies through the regular reporting on the implementation of the international conventions;**
- **We call the Government to ratify the Third Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child;**
- **We call the Government to proceed with the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture. We therefore welcome the strong indication of the Government expressed in the introductory remarks of the Head of the Delegation today to do so in the third semester of 2013.**