

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

Geneva: April 24, 2013

**Statement of the Special Representative-Ambassador to the UN HRC,
Zorica Maric - Djordjevic**

Uzbekistan UPR – April 24

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Montenegro warmly welcomes head of delegation distinguished Prof. dr. Akmal Saidov and the Uzbekistan's delegation. We support Uzbekistan's commitment to the UPR process.

Montenegro commends the Government of Uzbekistan for ratifying the Second Optional protocol to the International Convention on the Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR-OP 2) and for abolition of the death penalty in conformity with it. Montenegro recognizes the Government of Uzbekistan efforts to strengthen the guarantees for the rights of children to protection against torture and other cruel, harsh or degrading treatment.

We have noticed the concern of the HR Committee with the definition in the Article 120 of the Criminal Code criminalizing consensual sexual activities between adult males. We would like to know if the Government of Uzbekistan has taken or plan to undertake the concrete steps to amend the Criminal Code in order to stipulate decriminalization?

Montenegro makes the following two recommendations:

- * We call the Government to become a party to the Option Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.**
- * We call on the Government to extend a standing invitation to all thematic special procedures.**