

WG on UPR
17th session
Geneva, 30 October 2013

Mr. President,

Azerbaijan welcomes the delegation of Malta and thanks for the introductory statement.

We welcome the appointment of a Minister responsible for civil liberties which shows commitment of the Government towards the better safeguard of civil rights and equality.

During the reporting period, Malta has acceded to a number of international human rights treaties, such as United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography and others. We recommend Malta to continue its accession process to the core human rights treaties.

The Maltese Government has, over the years, also taken various legislative initiatives aimed at further safeguarding the implementation of particular human rights by instituting new legislation addressing various human rights aspects such as the protection of minors, the rights of persons with disabilities and right pertaining to equality. We recommend Malta to continue its measures in that regard.

We are pleased to know that Malta takes an active part in rescue operations at sea particularly for irregular migrants entering Malta by sea and provides instant refuge for them. Malta has undertaken to coordinate search and rescues services and operations to all vessels in distress within the area for which it is responsible and facilitated the necessary arrangements for rescued persons to reach the nearest safe port. We recommend Malta to continue its cooperation with neighbouring countries in that regard.

Finally, we would like to wish the delegation of Malta successful and productive review in this second cycle.

Thank you for attention.