

Rolands Šterģis

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**Statement of the Republic of Latvia
17th session of the UPR
Review of Saudi Arabia**

Mr. President,

Latvia welcomes the delegation of Saudi Arabia to its second cycle of the UPR and thanks them for the comprehensive national report and its presentation today.

My delegation commends the efforts of the Government of Saudi Arabia to fight against domestic violence. We welcome the adoption of recent legislative act in this regard.

We also note with appreciation the accession of Saudi Arabia to two optional protocols of the Convention on the rights of the child. Latvia **recommends** Saudi Arabia to continue exploring possibilities to extend its international commitments, in particular to consider ratification of ICCPR and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

While acknowledging the important role of special procedures in promotion and protection of human rights, Latvia **recommends** Saudi Arabia to continue to strengthen its cooperation with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council by responding positively to the pending visit requests and eventually consider extending a standing invitation to all the special procedures mandates holders.

Thank you, Mr. President.