

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW
18th Session

CHILE

Mister President,

The Republic of Cyprus welcomes the delegation of Chile, headed by [*head of delegation*], to the 18th session of the UPR and would like to thank them for their comprehensive National Report and a very informative presentation. We wish to take this opportunity to commend the Government of Chile for its steadfast commitment to human rights and for having implemented a significant number of recommendations of the first UPR-cycle.

Cyprus notes with satisfaction the significant efforts of the Chilean Government to align national human rights legislation with international standards and to practically safeguard the rights and fundamental freedoms of its people in all areas of life. In this respect, we wish to refer to the establishment of the National Human Rights Institution; the issuance of a standing invitation to United Nations Standing Procedures; the adoption of the 2012 Law Establishing Measures against Discrimination; the introduction of changes to the trafficking law in order to include crimes other than sexual exploitation; the ratification of the Rome Statute; and many more.

Particularly, we would like to congratulate the Chilean Government for setting up a human rights department in the Police (the *Carabineros de Chile*), whose role is to promote the incorporation of human rights into the institutional culture and practices of the police forces. The drawing up of human rights plans and strategies, in association with the ICRC, as part of the professional training of police officers, is also taken note of.

This said, there have still been reports of inappropriate use of anti-riot weapons by the police during demonstrations and student-riots of recent years, which ended in violent clashes between police and demonstrators. Cyprus, therefore, wishes to enquire as to the measures taken to ensure that civilian authorities fully investigate those alleged human rights abuses and the use of excessive force by the Police.

Cyprus would like to make the following recommendation:

- That Chile continues to fully investigate all alleged cases of ill-treatment by police and security forces, including during student demonstrations.

I thank you Mister President.