

STATEMENT by BULGARIA

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Cyprus.

We would like to thank Cyprus for the comprehensive second national report which focuses on the developments in legislation, administration and government policies since 2009 and which demonstrates the strong commitment of Cyprus to the UPR process.

Bulgaria notes with appreciation that over the past four years, Cyprus has dedicated itself to the implementation of the recommendations accepted in the 1st UPR session and has ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, as had been recommended by Bulgaria.

We further note the initiatives of the Ministry of Labour to reduce the wage gap between men and women and the various initiatives that the Government undertakes for better access of people with disabilities in the labour market.

Bulgaria recommends Cyprus to ensure that children with disabilities are able to exercise their right to education and provide for their inclusion in the mainstream education system.

Further to the information provided in the national report, Bulgaria would like to hear more on the policy measures taken by the Government of Cyprus to promote the right to education?

Thank you!