

**Hungary's Statement on the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia,
UPR 18th Session, 30 January 2014**

Mr. President,

Hungary welcomes the delegation of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to this UPR session and thanks them for their comprehensive summary of the human rights situation in the country. We commend the Government for preparing a Mid-Term UPR and for involving civil society and the academia in the preparation of the current report

Hungary notes with satisfaction the ratification by FYROM of the CRPD and its Optional Protocol. We have also learnt with great interest that in 2010 the National Assembly adopted the Law on the Prevention of and Protection against Discrimination, which provides inter alia for a special court procedure for protection against discrimination. My delegation would like to know more about the concrete implementation of this important piece of legislation.

Hungary takes positive note of the Governments efforts to strengthen the mandate of the ombudsman. While recognizing the results achieved so far **my delegation recommends that the Government keep up its efforts aimed at increasing the transparency in the appointment process of the Ombudsman and introduce the necessary legislative changes in order to reinforce the institutional capacities of the Office and bring its competences in line with the Paris Principles.**

Hungary welcomes the 2012 adoption to the Law on Asylum but shares UNHCR's concern about the vulnerable situation of children among refugees and asylum seekers. **We recommend that the Government establish a procedure for determining the best interest of the children during all asylum and refugee processes.**

Finally, Mr. President, Hungary appreciates the Governments 2008 initiative to establish an Agency for Rights of Communities, with the aim of facilitating greater integration of persons belonging to such communities in all areas of social life, while preserving their ethnic and cultural identity.

Thank you Mr. President.