

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW  
18<sup>th</sup> Session

URUGUAY

Mister President,

The Republic of Cyprus welcomes Dr. Guerrero, Secretary of the Presidency of the Republic of Uruguay and the rest of the members of the Uruguayan delegation to this session of the second-UPR cycle and thanks them for their presentation.

We firmly believe that the work carried out by Uruguay concerning the recommendations from its last review in 2009 should be fully acknowledged. We must praise Uruguay's overall commitment to human rights, as evidenced by its work in the Human Rights Council and its contributions to other international human rights bodies.

Cyprus notes with satisfaction the significant efforts of the Government of Uruguay 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 light of the above, we acknowledge the efforts made to protect the human rights of women, including, *inter alia*, the various efforts made in the legislative sphere. Despite the significant progress there are still reports on persistent difficulties in the response to situations involving violence against women, gender inequalities in the labour market, and continuing gender stereotypes that discriminate against women, in particular in respect of sexual offences.

Cyprus would like to make the following three recommendations:

- That Uruguay continues with its efforts to remove discriminatory norms against women from its legislation;
- To take additional measures to protect women from domestic violence; and
- To take all necessary steps in order to promote equality of women and men in the realms of family, economy and policy.

I thank you Mister President.

Andreas Ignatious