UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW, April 2014

UPR 19th Session

Recommendations from Denmark to the Republic of Albania.

Thank you, President,

Denmark thanks the delegation of the Republic of Albania for their presentation today as well as for the comprehensive national report. We welcome the many positive steps taken by Albania to further improve the human rights situation in the country since its first UPR.

Denmark commends Albania's ratification in November 2012 of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence as well as its amendments to the Criminal Code and the law “on Legal Aid” concerning domestic violence.

In order to ensure full implementation of these new legal obligations, Denmark recommends the government of Albania to provide the necessary support, including adequate shelter, to all victims of domestic violence.

Denmark notes with concern the continued allegations concerning torture and ill-treatment of persons held in detention facilities. Investigations have established that some allegations are justified although only few incidents have been classified as incidents of torture. Denmark encourages the Government of Albania to take further measures to enhance prevention of torture and ill-treatment such as more visits by the national preventive mechanism to places of detention without prior consent by the respective authorities.

In order to ensure adequate treatment of victims of torture in line with Albania's obligations under the Convention Against Torture and the recently adopted Human Right Council resolution 22/21 on rehabilitation services for torture victims, Denmark recommends the government of Albania to integrate specialised and holistic rehabilitation service in the public health system.

Thank you, President