**UPR – COSTA RICA – 5 May 2014**

**STATEMENT by BULGARIA**

Thank you, Mr. President!

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Costa Rica.

We would like to thank Costa Rica for the comprehensive national report underscoring the progress on the implementation of a number of recommendations, as well as some challenges in the context of the efforts to promote and protect human rights.

The Bulgarian delegation notes with appreciation the establishment of the Inter-Institutional Commission on Follow-Up to and Compliance with International Human Rights Obligations - a commitment made by Costa Rica in the previous UPR cycle.

We appreciate that in line with the recommendations made by Bulgaria in the first UPR, public programmes and policies have been elaborated in recent years, which address population groups in need of special support for improving their quality of life and helping them find employment.

Further to our recommendation during the first cycle on access to education, Bulgaria would like to address the following three recommendations to the delegation of Costa Rica:

* to further elaborate provisions in its legislation on the justifiability of the right to education;
* to strengthen measures allowing indigenous communities to have access to education;
* to incorporate human rights education in school curricula.

Thank you.