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**Universal Periodic Review of the Republic of Costa Rica**

**5 May 2014**

**Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Costa Rica. We thank Costa Rica for the detailed report, which has been prepared in extensive dialogue with representatives of civil society and thus truly reflects the human rights situation in the country. Estonia welcomes and looks forward to the cooperation between our countries as members of the Human Rights Council.

Since the last UPR review, Costa Rica has made progress in almost all human rights areas and implemented most of the recommendations. We commend the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the CRC (Convention of the Rights of Child, **OP-CRC-IC**) and note with appreciation the decriminalization of defamation.

Estonia recognizes the significant progress made in the fields of gender equality and women`s and child’s rights as well as the efforts made in eliminating trafficking in persons, sexual exploitation and child labor. Further on we encourage the Government to concentrate to effective implementation of all the relevant laws, policies and programs throughout the country, including by providing adequate resources.

We call on the authorities of Costa Rica to further enhance cooperation with indigenous peoples and increase efforts in improving the conditions in indigenous communities.

Estonia would like to make **the following recommendations:**

- 1) to guarantee the effective **protection of child rights** in offline as well as online by amending the relevant national laws if necessary and providing adequate resources;

**-** 2) to fully align its national legislation with the **Rome Statute of the ICC (International Criminal Court)** and to ratify the **Kampala Amendments** to the Rome Statute.

Finally, Estonia warmly notes the active participation of Costa Rica in the Freedom Online Coalition. We would like to wish the delegation of Costa Rica a successful review meeting.

Thank You!