

Statement by Hungary on Nicaragua, UPR Session 19, 7 May 2014

Mr. President,

Hungary warmly welcomes the delegates of Nicaragua to the 19th session of the UPR and thanks it for the presentation of its national report. We commend Nicaragua on the progress made in improving the human rights situation in the country since its last review, in particular as regards education, infant mortality and birth registration.

We also welcome efforts made in the area of human rights training for public officials in Nicaragua, including training activities for officials of the National Police. However, we are concerned about continued reports of human rights violations by police authorities. Therefore **we recommend** that Nicaragua ensure prompt, thorough, independent and transparent investigations into all allegations of rape, torture or other ill-treatment by law enforcement officials, hold those responsible to account and provide reparations and redress to the victims.

We positively note the adoption in 2012 of a law to address violence against women, but deplore delays in its implementation as well as recent amendments weakening the protections for victims and facilitating impunity for abusers. This is particularly regrettable considering the high incidence of sexual abuse in the country resulting among others in high rates of teenage pregnancy. **We recommend** that Nicaragua ensures full compatibility of all provisions of Act 779 with its international obligations and allocate the necessary budget to allow for its proper and prompt implementation.

Thank you Mr. President.