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## Universal Periodic Review of Nicaragua Statement by the Republic of Poland

7<sup>th</sup> May 2014, Geneva

Mr. President,

Poland would like to thank the delegation of Nicaragua for its informative national report and constructive participation in the UPR process.

At the same time, while fully appreciating the Nicaraguan efforts undertaken to comply with the recommendations accepted by the government in 2009, in particular those with regard to the protection of women and children, the Polish delegation would like to present to Nicaragua further recommendations in this regard:

- 1. Poland **recommends** to Nicaragua to continue its efforts to implement legal protection measures for women-victims of all forms of violence by establishing a witness protection programme as it will increase their access to justice and their protection.
- 2. Poland **recommends** to Nicaragua to formulate a national plan to address violence against children, that will include aspects of prevention, care and reparations as well as to launch public awareness programmes on child abuse.

Finally, Poland would like to encourage Nicaragua to maximize its efforts to provide a conducive environment for civil society, which will make any kind of practice that impedes the work of persons and institutions defending human rights impossible.

Thank you for your attention.