

PERMANENT MISSION OF MONTENEGRO TO THE UN, WTO AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

April 28, 2014

Universal Periodic Review – 19th Session - Norway

Statement by the Special Representative - Ambassador of Montenegro to the HRC Zorica Maric Djordjevic

Montenegro warmly welcomes [head of delegation] and the delegation of Norway. I would like to thank you for your comprehensive presentation.

My country welcomes the commitment of Norway to the UPR process and recognizes the steps the government has taken to promote human rights and to implement new mechanisms to address problem areas.

Montenegro would like to commend Norway for its efforts to address issues of discrimination. Particularly, we welcome the implementation of anti-discrimination acts in 2014 intended to strengthen protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender equality, ethnicity, and accessibility for persons with disabilities. We would like to ask whether Norway plans to take additional steps to increase the promotion and awareness of equality within public institutions.

We also welcome Norway's efforts to address domestic violence across the country. We appreciate that Norway has made this one of its national priorities and that the government has taken steps to address this issue and to identify risk factors for better prevention strategies. We would like to ask whether Norway could elaborate on any efforts to promote gender equality and to combat gender-based violence.

Montenegro recommends:

1. That Norway continues to promote a greater focus on combatting gender-based violence.
2. We further recommend that Norway continue its efforts to ensuring that Equality and Anti-Discrimination Ombudsperson's office has adequate resources to promote its work.

Montenegro also hopes that Norway will continue to have productive and successful engagement with the UPR process. We thank you again.