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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
to United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

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19th Session of the WG on UPR
UPR of Norway

Statement
of
Mr. Dusko Uzunovski
Minister Counselor
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Geneva, April 28, 2014

Mr. President,

- Macedonia welcomes the Norwegian delegation and thanks them for the comprehensive National Report and its informative presentation.
- We congratulate Norway for their ongoing achievements in the field of promotion and protection of human rights domestically and we commend the ratification of the CRPD and of the OP CAT.
- We also dully note Norway's efforts and commitments to international human rights cooperation and dialogue.
- The Republic of Macedonia would like to commend Norway for the advancements made in the national legislation and its implementation, concerning recommendations made during their first UPR cycle.
- The Republic of Macedonia recognizes the inclusion of the multiple non-governmental and civil society organizations in its efforts to create better-tailored legislation that ensures practical implementation.
- Positive practices of the Norwegian corporate social responsibility platform are good example to other countries in engaging in activities that will encompass human rights into corporate strategies.
- While, well aware of Norway role as one of the standard setting societies and their strong commitments in advocating Universal Human Rights, we have noted some concerns that have been raised by the UN treaty bodies regarding gender inequality and especially the inadequate representation of women with minority backgrounds in prominent societal roles.

We would like to pose the following Qs:

Q.1 Could you provide us with more details of the results, concerning the work of the Government's consultative body, KOMpakt?

Q.2 Could you elaborate further the positions emphasized in the 2013 whitepaper concerning domestic violence?

Q.3 Relating to *the amendments of the Criminal Procedure Act* concerning detention of the minors, adopted in 2012, we would like to ask the Delegation of Norway for the measures undertaken so far in the implementation of aforesaid amendments.

In conclusion, Macedonia recommends that Norway:

1. Continue strengthening the provisions guaranteeing human rights to persons belonging to ethnic groups.

Thank you Mr. President.