**UPR – PORTUGAL – 30 April 2014**

**STATEMENT by BULGARIA**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Portugal.

We would like to thank Portugal for the comprehensive national report and the detailed presentation today, demonstrating strong commitment to the UPR process.

Bulgaria welcomes the overall efforts made by Portugal to thoroughly implement the recommendations that were accepted during the first cycle.

Bulgaria notes positively the fact that combating violence against women and domestic violence remains a priority for Portugal, as is reflected in the 4th and 5th National Plans against Domestic/Gender-Based Violence that focus on information, protection, prevention, training and investigation.

We appreciate that in line with the recommendation made by Bulgaria in the first UPR, Portugal introduced further legal amendments in February 2013, in order to extend the concept of domestic violence.

Bulgaria further recommends that specific data continue to be collected, as well as efforts be maintained to standardise reporting and data collection concerning victims of domestic violence, including through the creation of a website and a database.

Bulgaria would like to use this opportunity and express its gratefulness to the Portuguese people on the occasion of the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the Carnation Revolution, as it opened the way to the successful democratic development of the country, demonstrated to the rest of the world that authoritarian and totalitarian regimes could be overthrown by peaceful means and inspired in a way the Bulgarian people for its victory over the regime of Todor Zhivkov on 10th of November, 25 years ago.

Thank you!