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## UPR20 – EGYPT

### STATEMENT BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC

*The Czech Republic welcomes the delegation of Egypt and wishes to put forward the following **recommendations**:*

- First, to ratify the OP-CAT (Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment);
- Second, to improve the quality of the electoral process and ensure implementation of recommendations of Election Observation Missions, especially with regard to equal political participation of women, participation of independent election observers, respect for freedom of assembly, expression and information and revision of campaign finance regulations;
- Third, to strengthen the freedom of expression and the media in the country so that all journalists can carry out their news reporting activities freely and without intimidation and those imprisoned in connection with their work can be released without delay;
- Fourth, to guarantee the right to fair trial and ensure that civilians are tried in civilian courts at all times;
- Finally, to facilitate the work of civil society actors through, *inter alia*, removing excessive requirements for their registration, operation and funding and aligning the Law on Associations with the Constitution.

I thank you.

5 November 2014