**Universal Periodic Review of the ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT**

**5 November 2014**

**Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia warmly welcomes the high level delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the UPR.

While noting Egypt’s steps to implement the previous recommendations, Estonia would like to encourage Egypt to extend a standing invitation to the Special Procedures of the UN Human Rights Council and to step up its cooperation with Treaty Bodies. We further encourage accelerating the opening of the OHCHR regional office in Cairo.

Welcoming the fact that the 2014 Constitution contains guarantees for fundamental rights and freedoms, we urge Egypt to step up its efforts in its implementation. We would like to call on authorities to investigate all reports of torture or other ill-treatment by the security forces and bring to justice anyone found responsible for abuses.

Estonia would like to recommend:

- to accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

- to take legislative and enforcement measures to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including to withdraw Egypt’s reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW);

- to stop limits on Constitutional rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of expression and release all those imprisoned for exercising their constitutional rights, including media representatives;

We would like to wish the delegation of Egypt a successful review meeting.

Thank you!