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1- H.E Mr. Shameem Ahsan  
Ambassador

2. Ms. Nahida Sobhan

(Check against delivery)

## **Bangladesh statement on Universal Periodic Review of Belarus**

Thank you Mr. President.

We have studied the report of Belarus with interest. The report has given a fair account of the initiatives taken by the government in response to the recommendations accepted during its first cycle of UPR.

We have found the country has made progress in number of areas through various, legislative and administrative actions and implementing policies and programmes.

The country has been able to uplift its position in the UNDP Human Development index, reflecting that the State had prioritized the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals) into its policies and programmes. Achievements in implementing free and compulsory primary education, women's high level of education, and reductions in maternal and infant mortality are notable.

Despite many achievements, Belarus still faces challenges that need to be overcome. These challenges are reflected in various concerns expressed by several treaty bodies.

In this regard, we would like to recommend that Belarus, -

1. Improves the health situation of all children despite status; and
2. Increases the availability of pre-school facilities in rural areas.

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