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**Statement by the Delegation of Kazakhstan
at the 22d Session of the UPR WG / UPR of Belarus
4 May, 2015**

Kazakhstan warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Belarus headed by the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Valentin Rybakov and thanks for the presentation of the National Report.

Kazakhstan takes positive note of the progress achieved by Belarus in implementing the recommendations of the 1st UPR cycle. Since 2010 an important work has been done to further improve the national legislation, in particular in the areas of child and women's rights protection, counter-trafficking, education and judiciary. We welcome these efforts and recommend taking further steps to ensure practical realization of this improved legal framework.

Kazakhstan also welcomes the decision of Belarus to accede to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and in this regard we would like to recommend finalizing the acceding process at its earliest.

Since 2010 the efforts of Belarus to engage with OHCHR and the UN Treaty Bodies have been intensified. We positively note that a number of human rights events were organized in Belarus in cooperation with OHCHR and with participation of the UN Special Rapporteurs.

Belarus has also presented several periodic reports to the UN Treaty Bodies. With the upcoming submission in 2015-2016 of periodic reports to CAT, CEDAW and HRC, Belarus will clear up its backlog of reports to the UN Treaty Bodies, which is also highly commendable.

Kazakhstan has long standing friendly relations with Belarus. Our countries closely cooperate within a number of regional integration unions, including the recently established Eurasian Economic Union. We wish all the success to Belarus, support its national efforts to fulfill its obligations under international human rights treaties and wish to recommend Belarus pursuing this important task in the future.

Thank you!