

Ms. ANITA SZILÁGYI
Second Secretary

Statement by Hungary on Bulgaria

22nd Session of the UPR Working Group

7 May 2015

Mr. President,

Hungary welcomes the delegation of Bulgaria and congratulates them for their national report.

We acknowledge that several measures have been taken by the Bulgarian Government since its first UPR aiming at the development of the institutional and legislative framework for the promotion and protection of human rights.

Hungary wishes to raise the following points:

- We commend that a number of programmes, strategies and action plans to improve the situation of Roma have been started recently despite the difficult budgetary situation of the country. We would appreciate more information on how sustainable funding is provided and recommend ensuring the effective implementation of the relevant action plans, including the National Roma Integration Strategy (NRIS 2012-2020).
- Since 2013 the number of refugees and asylum seekers entering Bulgaria are steadily rising. As protection of unaccompanied children in this regard is of utmost importance, we recommend Bulgaria to provide all unaccompanied children with appropriate legal guardians, as required by Bulgarian law and to ensure their basic needs are met.
- Finally, we note with satisfaction that – as confirmed by the ODIHR – Bulgaria conducted free and fair elections last October based on the new electoral law. We recommend continuing the reform process in particular in the field of justice, administration, e-governance and social issues.

Thank you, Mr. President!