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STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA
Review of Bulgaria
22nd Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council
4-15 May 2015

Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of Bulgaria to the 22nd Session of the UPR Working Group and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

2. During Bulgaria's first cycle UPR, Malaysia made recommendations relating to children's rights, combating all forms of violence and national human rights institution. We are pleased to note that these recommendations were accepted by Bulgaria, and that significant efforts and achievements have been made in those areas, including, on the strengthening of the capacity of the Ombudsman.

3. Progress has also been made in other areas, in civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. Furthermore, we note that Bulgaria has undertaken various measures to combat xenophobia and hate speech, and trafficking in persons.

4. In the spirit of constructive engagement, my delegation would like to propose the following recommendations for the consideration of Bulgaria:

- 4.1. **One:** To double its efforts in combating intolerance and hate speech including through ensuring proper investigation and prosecution in all cases of attacks and incidents of intolerance against minorities;
- 4.2. **Two:** To strengthen its efforts on gender equality including in combating negative stereotypes about women on their social roles and in ensuring wider employment opportunities for women; and
- 4.3. **Three:** To continue its efforts in combating trafficking in persons including strengthening the preventive measures on sexual exploitation of women and children.

Thank you, Mr. President.

GENEVA
7 May 2015