



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

UPR Working Group 22nd Session *Universal Periodic Review of Bulgaria*

Statement of the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova Delivered by H.E. Victor Moraru, Ambassador, Permanent Representative (Geneva, 7 May 2015)

Mr. President,

We welcome the distinguished Bulgarian delegation to the UPR Working Group.

The Republic of Moldova commends Bulgaria for the actions undertaken since the first UPR review to strengthen the legal framework and institutional capacities for the protection of human rights.

We positively note the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment, the establishment of the National Coordination Mechanism on Human Rights and the measures undertaken to strengthen the Ombudsman institution.

Bearing in mind our recommendation to Bulgaria in the previous UPR cycle, we are pleased to note the efforts made to extend the network of shelters and centres for victims of human trafficking. In this context, we would be interested in more specific data on their territorial coverage and to learn whether they benefit of funding from the state budget.

While welcoming the adoption of both the Concept for Public Policy of Justice for Children (2011) and the Road Map for its implementation (2013), we echo the calls of international human rights mechanisms regarding a need for advancing the implementation of the juvenile justice reform.

From this perspective, we recommend Bulgaria *to take necessary measures for establishing a specialized juvenile justice system and continue efforts for the reintegration of former child offenders in the society, in compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.*

I thank you, Mr. President.