**Human Rights Council**

**22nd session of the UPR working group, 4-15 May 2015**

**Review of Marshall Islands**

**Intervention by Denmark**

Mr. President,

Denmark thanks the delegation of Marshall Islands for their presentation today. We would like to commend Marshall Islands for its constructive engagement in the UPR process and for having demonstrated progress in terms of the protection and promotion of human rights since its last review.

Denmark was pleased to note that Marshall Islands during its first Universal Periodic Review accepted recommendations to ratify the UN Convention against Torture. We are furthermore pleased to learn that a draft paper has been prepared seeking Cabinet to direct the national reporting and monitoring body to plan and consult with relevant stakeholders on accession to international human rights treaties. We can only strongly encourage this process

*Particularly, Denmark recommends that the Government of Marshall Islands intensify efforts to ratify the UN Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment with a view to have ratified the convention when Marshall Islands meet the Council for its third UPR-review.*

Allow me in this context to highlight that the Convention against Torture Initiative, which works through government to government exchange and cooperation, stands ready to explore avenues to assist the Government of Marshall Islands in advancing on this issue if deemed helpful.

Thank you, Mr. President.