**Human Rights Council**

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

**Review of Mongolia**

**Intervention by Denmark**

Mr. President,

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

Denmark congratulates Mongolia for the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture in February 2015. The OPCAT is an essential tool in the prevention of Torture, and Mongolia’s ratification demonstrates the government’s determination to advance on this fundamental human rights agenda.

In the same spirit, Denmark recommends that Mongolia submit its first report to the UN Committee against Torture, which is overdue since 2003, in order to initiate the valuable dialogue with the Committee.

Furthermore, we recommend that Mongolia make the declaration regarding article 22 of the Convention against Torture to recognize the competence of the Committee against Torture to receive individual communications.

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 Mongolia in advancing on these issue if deemed helpful.

Thank you, Mr. President.