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**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**Geneva, 6 May 2015**

**UPR 2 Cycle, Review of Panama**

**Statement by Montenegro**

Montenegro warmly welcomes distinguished (head of delegation) and the Delegation of Panama.

Montenegro welcomes the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission to ensure compliance with and follow-up to the national and international human rights commitments and its openness to the civil society. Could the delegation elaborate on progress achieved in fulfilling its international commitments since the establishment of new body?

We noted progress made towards achieving gender equality through the adoption of several laws criminalizing femicide and laws on trafficking in persons, as well as through the adoption of the State Policy on Equal Opportunities for Women. According to the UNCT there are high levels of violence against women. Could the delegation of Panama elaborate on results achieved in the implementation of measures aimed at eliminating all forms of violence against women?

We regret that the age of criminal responsibility has been reduced from 14 to 12 years. What steps are undertaken by the Government in order to bring the juvenile justice system fully into line with the CRC?

Montenegro makes following recommendations to the Government of Panama:

- to adopt legislation on comprehensive protection of children's and adolescent's rights;
- to fully align its national legislation with the Rome Statute of the ICC.

Thank you!