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organizations in Geneva

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I would like to warmly welcome the delegation of Panama and thank the Minister of Labour for the comprehensive briefing.

Georgia welcomes steps taken by Panama after its UPR in 2010. In particular we welcome the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons.

We commend Panama for extending a standing invitation to the human rights special procedures mandate holders.

We welcome the establishment of the national standing commission to ensure compliance with and follow-up to the human rights obligations incurred by Panama at the national and international levels.

We commend Panama for its efforts to strengthen its mechanisms and devise strategies to combat domestic violence. In this context Georgia recommends Panama to take additional measures in order to protect victims of domestic violence through effective implementation of its legislation.