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Statement by Mr. Shalva Tsiskarashvili, Permanent Representative
The 24th Session of the UPR Working Group
UPR of Belgium

Geneva, 20 January 2016

We warmly welcome the high-ranking Delegation of Belgium and thank the Vice-Prime Minister, H.E. Reynders for the comprehensive presentation.

We recognize Belgium's strong commitment to human rights and highlight Belgium's determination to comply fully with its obligations in the field of human rights and to improve its national mechanisms for follow-up in this area.

Georgia notes Belgium's active efforts aimed at ratification of the pending international instruments.

We encourage Belgium to adopt a national action plan on human rights. We also encourage Belgium to continue the practice of the submission of mid-term implementation reports.

Georgia would like to make the following 2 recommendations:

1. To expedite the establishment of a national human rights institution compliant with the Paris Principles;
2. To ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

We wish the distinguished delegation of Belgium a successful UPR.

Thank you Mr. President.