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

**Geneva, 21 January 2016**

**UPR 2 Cycle, Review of Palau**

**Statement by Montenegro**

Montenegro warmly welcomes the distinguished Delegation of Palau.

Montenegro recognizes the efforts made by the authorities to improve the institutional and legislative framework for the human rights. However, we noted concern of UN country team and other treaty bodies about the lack of national human rights institution and national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights.

Montenegro welcomes the fact that the Government signed all core human rights treaties between two UPR cycles, but still there are only two international human rights treaties (CRC and CRPD) which Palau is a party to. We encourage the Government to seek and to use technical assistance from OHCHR in order to strengthen its national capacities for full implementation of the core human rights instruments and to ratify conventions to which it is a signatory.

Montenegro makes following recommendations to the Government of Palau:

1. to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Second Optional Protocol, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty,
2. to incorporate the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) into the domestic legal system.

Thank you!