

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW – 24<sup>nd</sup> Session, 18 – 29 January 2016**

***Statement by the Republic of Cyprus***

***Solomon Islands***

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes Solomon Island's participation in the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of the UPR and commends its authorities for the comprehensive national report submitted, as well as for the presentation before us today.

We commend the measures that the Government of the Solomon Islands has taken to implement its international human rights obligations and for its persistent efforts to ensure the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. In particular, we welcome the enactment of the Immigration Act of 2012 and Immigration Regulations of 2013, criminalising people smuggling and trafficking of human beings.

Cyprus has the following 2 recommendations:

1. Increase gender equality, and
2. Take concrete steps towards ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Thank you Mr. President.