

UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW – 25nd Session, 2 – 13 May 2016

**Statement by the Republic of Cyprus during the review of
Greece**

Mr. President,

Cyprus extends a warm welcome to the delegation of Greece led by H.E. Secretary General Mr. Papaioannou and thanks the country's authorities for their comprehensive national report. We note with satisfaction the positive engagement of national human rights institutions and civil society organizations in the preparation of this report.

Cyprus wishes to commend the Greek Government for its principled, humane approach to the refugee and migrant crisis facing the region. We also praise the Hellenic coastguard for saving thousands of lives at sea and the Greek people for the hospitality and assistance they have been extending to hundreds of thousands of refugees and migrants landing on their shores.

We welcome the measures undertaken by the Greek Government since the first UPR cycle and in particular the adoption of a modern legal framework aimed at combating racism, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance.

Finally, Cyprus would recommend that Greece completes the elaboration of the National Action Plan on the Rights of the Child and addresses, as a matter of priority, the issue of unaccompanied children.

I thank you.