Human Rights Council UPR 25th Session Recommendations from Denmark to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines May 2016

Mr. President,

Denmark warmly welcomes the delegation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and thanks it for its presentation today. We would like to commend Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for its constructive engagement in the UPR process and for having demonstrated progress in the protection and promotion of human rights since its first review.

Denmark commends Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for having ratified all of the core UN human rights conventions, and would like to encourage the government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to take advantage of the expertise and assistance provided by the UN Treaty Bodies through an increased focus on reporting to the relevant UN committees.

Particularly, Denmark <u>recommends</u> that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines submits its first report to the Committee against Torture which is overdue since 2002.

Furthermore, Denmark <u>recommends</u> that the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment.

The Optional Protocol establishes a set of practical tools on how to prevent torture and ill-treatment which have proven to be very effective in the fight against torture.

We hope that the government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines will positively consider to accept our recommendations. This would be an important signal that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines takes a zero tolerance approach to the use of torture.

Thank you Mr. President.