**GEORGIA**

**Statement by Mr. Shalva Tsiskarashvili, Permanent Representative**

**The 26th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**UPR of Lithuania**

Geneva, 2 November 2016

Georgia warmly welcomes the Delegation of Lithuania and thanks the distinguished Vice-Minister of Justice H.E. Paulius Griciunas for today’s report.

Georgia highlights Lithuania’s achievements in dealing with the human rights agenda and important steps conducted to implement the recommendations from the first review. We note with appreciation that Lithuania is a signatory to the most international conventions and welcome the ratification of the OPCAT since the first UPR. We welcome Lithuania’s efforts towards the establishment of the national human rights institution in compliance with the Paris Principles.

Lithuania is actively involved in providing technical assistance programs on human rights in other countries. Number of projects has been implemented in the EU Eastern Partnership countries as well, including Georgia.

We welcome steps towards the improvement of the system for the protection of the rights of the child, including the initiation of the draft amendments to the Law on the Rights of the Child and adoption of the Action Plan on the Provision of Combined Services to a Family for the period 2016–2020.

In line of the aforesaid Georgia would like to **recommend** to the Government of Lithuania:

* To reinforce the measures to protect the rights of child, inter alia by expediting the adoption of the revised draft Law on Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child;
* To continue its support to the Office of the Children’s Rights Ombudsman.

We wish the delegation of Lithuania a successful UPR.