**STATEMENT BY BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

**Review of Bahrain**

**27th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**Geneva, 1 May 2017**

Mr. President,

Brunei Darussalam would like to warmly welcome the delegation of Bahrain to the 27th Session of the UPR Working Group and as the first Member State to be reviewed under the third cycle.

Brunei Darussalam is pleased to note the efforts the Government of Bahrain has made in the advancement of women in Bahrain. Since its last UPR, a relevant National Plan was launched. Under the plan, there have been initiatives to promote the economic empowerment of women, such as the establishment of the Women’s Support and Information Centre as well as the Bahrain Women’s Capacity Development Centre.

Brunei Darussalam further acknowledges the work done by the Bahraini Government in ensuring its people, especially the vulnerable group, continue to have access to quality education in the country. We note with great satisfaction that several schools in Bahrain have been licensed to teach students with special needs under an approved curriculum by the Ministry of Education.

In this regard, my delegation would like to make two recommendations:

1. Take steps to ensure the successful implementation of the National Plan for the Advancement of Bahraini Women 2013 – 2022.
2. Ensure the completion and successful running of the nine rehabilitation centres in a comprehensive disability complex.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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