**Universal Periodic Review, 27th session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of South Africa, 10 May 2017**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

Denmark warmly welcomes the South African delegation and thanks it for its presentation today.

Denmark commends South Africa for developing a national youth policy and establishing the South African Youth Council and the National Youth Development Agency.

*Denmark* ***recommends*** *South Africa to allocate sufficient resources to implement its youth policy to ensure meaningful use of youth delegates, inclusion of youth in rural areas and strengthened political impartiality and independence of youth representation.*

Denmark acknowledges South Africa’s policies to address sexual and reproductive health and rights. However, the numbers of unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortions and sexually transmitted infections among adolescents and youth remain high.

*Denmark* ***recommends*** *South Africa to ensure comprehensive sexuality education in school curriculum including on consent, contraception and gender-based violence.*

Finally, *Denmark* ***recommends*** *South Africa to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment*.

I thank you.