**G E O R G I A**

The 27th Session of the UPR Working Group

UPR of South Africa

 Geneva, 10 May 2017

Georgia welcomes the Delegation of South Africa and thanks the Head of the Delegation for the presentation of the national report.

We welcome Government’s efforts to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality. The ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights was a commendable step in this regard.

Georgia notes the adoption of the Prevention and Combating of Torture of Persons Act as an important measure to eliminate torture and other cruel or degrading treatment.

We appreciate the elaboration of the National Action Plan to combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance as well the Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Speech Bill, and encourage the Government of South Africa to continue efforts to build an inclusive society.

Georgia would like to recommend to South Africa:

* To revive efforts to develop a National Action Plan on combating gender-based violence;
* To continue taking measures to prevent torture and other forms of ill-treatment, including steps towards ratification of the OP-CAT;

We wish the delegation of South Africa a successful UPR.