**STATEMENT BY GHANA DELIVERED BY ABA AYEBI-ARTHUR, MINISTER-COUNSELLOR,, DURING THE 44TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP ON MONDAY, 13TH NOVEMBER 2023**

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF BANGLADESH**

Mr. President.

Ghana commends Bangladesh’s efforts in recent years to promote and protect human rights standards, noting in particular the active coordination with UN Human Rights Mechanisms. We welcome the various administrative, legislative, and policy measures undertaken to strengthen its institutional framework in the country, and encourage the Government to continue with these positive interventions.

We also welcome with appreciation the adoption of the National action Plan to prevent Violence against Women and-Children (2018-2030).

Ghana wishes to offer the following three recommendations to Bangladesh:

1. **Intensify efforts to ratify OP-CAT;**
2. **Ensure that all allegations of gender-based violence against women and girls are thoroughly and effectively investigated, and perpetrators bought to justice; and**
3. **Establish a moratorium on the use of death penalty, with a view to abolish it in future.**

Ghana wishes Bangladesh a successful review process.

I thank you.