**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**Geneva, 13 November 2023**

**UPR Fourth Cycle, Review of Bangladesh**

**Statement by Montenegro**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Bangladesh and the Government’s engagement with the UPR process.

We commend the efforts of Bangladesh’s authorities to host over 1 million Rohingya refugees over the past years. We underline the importance of recognition of the legal status of Rohingya refugees, while ensuring their safety and access to all basic services.

We welcome the improvements in promotion and protection of persons with disabilities. However, we are concerned about the position of women with disabilities and we urge Bangladesh to prohibit the reported perpetration of forced abortion and sterilization of women with disabilities.

Montenegro recommends to Bangladesh:

1. To adopt a comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation prohibiting direct, indirect and multiple forms of discrimination on any grounds and providing effective remedies for victims of discrimination;
2. To ensure that all allegations of gender-based violence against women and girls were thoroughly and effectively investigated, and perpetrators brought to justice;
3. To repeal section 377 of the Penal Code criminalizing “unnatural behaviour” and used to prohibit consensual same-sex sexual conduct.

We wish Bangladesh a successful UPR review.

I thank you.