**Universal Periodic Review, 44th session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Burkina Faso, 6 November 2023**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

Denmark welcomes the delegation of Burkina Faso and thanks it for its presentation.

The security situation in Burkina Faso is alarming. We are gravely concerned by the increasing number of reports of extrajudicial killings involving the defence and security forces and their civilian auxiliaries.

Denmark is also concerned about the continued suspension of activities of political parties and civil society organisations, the suspension of certain media and cases of intimidation and attacks on journalists.

*Denmark therefore recommends Burkina Faso to:*

1. *Ensure the right to life in the fight against violent extremism by protecting civilians in line with obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law,*
2. *Revoke measures impeding on the rights to freedoms of expression and assembly as well as freedom of the press in order to ensure a conducive environment for political parties, civil society organisations and the free press.*

Denmark wishes Burkina Faso a successful review.

I thank you.