**The 44th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Colombia**

**7 November 2023**

**Statement by the Republic of Latvia**

Thank you, President,

Latvia welcomes the delegation of Colombia to the UPR Working Group and thanks the delegation for presenting its national report. We note the measures taken by Colombia since the third review and encourage to make further efforts in fulfilling its human rights obligations and commitments.

Latvia would like to **recommend**:

1. to consider ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;
2. to take effective measures to prevent acts of violence and intimidation, reprisals against and arbitrary detentions of human rights activists, including women human rights defenders;
3. to eradicate violations of the rights of persons with disabilities, especially restrictions to primary and secondary education;
4. to intensify the efforts, also through legislative initiatives, on inclusion and retention of women and girls in schools;
5. to cooperate fully with United Nations special procedures mandate holders.

Latvia wishes the delegation of Colombia success in the review.

I thank you.