**UPR 44**

**Cuba**

*15th November 2023*

**Statement by the Czech Republic**

Mr. Chair,

Czechia thanks Cuba for its involvement in the UPR process.

We welcome the advancements in the new Family Code [that reflect a significant step forward in] upholding the rights of women and LGBTQ+ persons.

We wish to recommend Cuba to:

1. Allow human rights defenders, independent journalists and civil society organizations to exercise their rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association without restriction.
2. Constructively engage in multilateral human rights fora and act to protect, respect and fulfil human rights of all persons, including their right to a fair trial.
3. Implement a legislation to guarantee the free exercise of basic human rights established in the Constitution.
4. Issue and implement a standing invitation to all special procedures.

We wish Cuba a successful UPR.

Thank you.