Statement by the Republic of Lithuania

UPR44– Cuba

(173 w., 1 min.)

Thank you, Mr. President,

Lithuania welcomes the delegation of Cuba and thanks it for its National Report.

We note the positive developments since the last UPR cycle, especially regarding the rights of the child and persons with disabilities. However, shrinking space for civil society, religious groups, human rights defenders, journalists and other media workers remains of concern. The recent decision to expand the list of crimes for which capital punishment can be applied is especially alarming.

Lithuania would like to make the following recommendations:

- One, reduce the number of offences punishable by death penalty as the first step towards its abolition.

- Two, guarantee the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, as well as freedom of opinion and expression; free all political prisoners, including minors, and prevent human trafficking in line with Cuba’s international obligations.

- Three, consider developing policies to ensure unhindered public access to diverse independent sources of information, both online and offline, also internet connection.

Lithuania wishes Cuba all success in the current UPR.

I thank you.