**United Nations Human Rights Council**

**44th session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Cuba**

**Geneva, 15 November 2023**

Statement by Portugal

*Speaking time - 50”*

Chair,

Portugal welcomes the delegation of Cuba and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

We commend Cuba for devising strategies and programmes related to the rights of women and persons with disabilities as well as to combat racism and gender-based violence.

Portugal recommends that Cuba:

* Ratifies the International Covenants on Political and Civil Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
* Abolishes the death penalty.
* Establishes an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

Portugal wishes Cuba a successful review.

Thank you.

*89 words*