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**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus**

**Geneva**

*V. Konnari*

**Intervention by Cyprus**

**9 November 2023, 09:00-12:30**

**Universal Periodic Review**

**44th Session**

***GERMANY***

Mr President,

Cyprus welcomes Germany’s participation at today’s UPR and for the presentation of its report.

Cyprus acknowledges the importance given by Germany to the protection and promotion of human rights in its national and foreign policy as well as its active engagement in the work of the Human Rights Council. We note in particular the work that has been carried out within the framework of the National Action Plan Against Racism to eliminate racial discrimination and right-wing extremism.

We welcome the ratification of the Optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and cultural Rights, as well as the withdrawal of the reservations to the Istanbul Convention so that the latter can be applied without restrictions in Germany.

Cyprus recommends that Germany:

* Explicitly Incorporate children’s rights into Basic Law on the basis of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the establishment of a child right-based approach for all aspect of budgeting as well as a tracking system for the allocation, use and monitoring of resources for children.
* Strengthen its efforts to combat all forms of hate speech both off and online, and continue its awareness raising efforts that promote tolerance and the respect of human rights.
* Organize campaigns and educational programmes, to raise awareness of the importance of cultural heritage in all its diversity.

Thank you, Mr President.