**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**Geneva, 6 November 2023**

**UPR Fourth Cycle, Review of Turkmenistan**

**Statement by Montenegro**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Turkmenistan.

We note with appreciation the Turkmenistan’s efforts to advance the promotion and protection of human rights on the normative and institutional level in-between two UPR cycles. In particular the adoption of the Human Rights Action Plan, National Action Plans on Gender Equality and Realization of Children’s Rights, and carried out capacity assessment of the Office of the Ombudsperson.

While taking note of the data on the decreasing trend of the maternal mortality, we urge Turkmenistan to continue the effective implementation of measures in this domain, particularly under the national Healthy Mother – Healthy Child – Healthy Future strategy.

We also reiterate our call to Turkmenistan to enact the comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation.

Montenegro recommends to Turkmenistan:

1. To expedite the adoption of a comprehensive law specifically defining and criminalizing all forms of gender-based violence against women;
2. To ensure full compliance of the Office of the Ombudsman with the Paris Principles and provide it with sufficient human and financial resources to carry out its mandate;
3. To take measures to effectively combat all forms of discrimination or violence against persons based on their sexual orientation or gender identity, including by providing training for law enforcement authorities and conducting awareness-raising campaigns.

We wish Turkmenistan a successful UPR cycle.

I thank you.