**UPR 43 – Uzbekistan**

*1’25’’ speaking time*

Chairperson,

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

Portugal commends Uzbekistan for establishing in 2019 a Children’s Rights Ombudsman’s Office.

Portugal recommends that Uzbekistan:

1. Take effective measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of sexual and gender-based violence, including by implementing the new legislation criminalizing some types of gender violence and by providing human rights training and conducting awareness-raising campaigns;
2. Take decisive action to address the cases of trafficking of women and girls, including by ensuring prompt and effective investigations of complaints, prosecuting perpetrators, and providing victims with appropriate redress;
3. Sign and ratifies the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

Portugal wishes Uzbekistan a successful review.

Thank you.