**45th session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of China**

23 January 2024

**Statement by Austria**

*MAX 45 Sek.*

Austria welcomes the delegation of China and thanks them for their presentation.

We would like to offer the following recommendations:

1. Cease the destruction of Uyghur cultural heritage and clarify the demolition or damaging of religious sites, as well as Uyghur, Kazakh and Kyrgyz UNESCO listed cultural items.
2. Repeal policies to forcibly assimilate Tibetan and Uyghur people culturally, religiously and linguistically. Abolish Chinese-language boarding school systems for Tibetan and Uyghur pupils and ensure their right to education without discrimination, family life and cultural rights.
3. Take urgent measures to protect judicial independence and rule of law in Hong Kong and ensure people in Hong Kong can exercise their rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of speech.

Thank you.