**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

45th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of the People’s Republic of China***

23 January 2024

Mr. President,

Bulgaria welcomes the high level Delegation of the People’s Republic of China and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

We recognize that China has eliminated absolute poverty and thus achieved the poverty reduction target of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ten years ahead of schedule.

Bulgaria acknowledges that since the 3rd UPR cycle China has enacted a number of new laws and revised existing laws that have improved the protection of human rights. We note the implementation of China’s 4th National Human Rights Action Plan for the period 2021-2025 and other medium- and long-term plans related to the protection of human rights of women, children, the elderly, etc.

We encourage China to take additional measures to protect the rights of all people to freedom of thought, expression and religion, as well as to improve the civil society environment.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations to China:

1. Take further steps to increase women’s representation in the legislature, public administration and judiciary;
2. Consider adopting a comprehensive strategy and, when relevant, introduce legislation to ensure high-quality inclusive education for all children with disabilities.

We wish the Delegation of China a successful review!

Thank you, Mr. President!