

**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus**

**Geneva**

*V. Konnari*

**Intervention by the Republic of Cyprus,**

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**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**45th Session**

**Mauritius**

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes the delegation from Mauritius to this session of the fourth UPR-cycle and thanks them for their presentation.

We commend Mauritius for its progress in the area of gender equality, protection of the rights of the child, especially the establishment of a new Children’s Court. We are pleased to note that a bill aimed at strengthening existing mechanisms as regards the trafficking of persons and establishing a more effective institutional framework including more severe penalties for traffickers, has been submitted to Parliament in November 2023.

To this end, Cyprus recommends that Mauritius

* Continue efforts to strengthen its national human rights framework including by implementing existing legislation and where it deems necessary seeking technical assistance from the United Nations and other development partners.
* Continue efforts to combat domestic violence.
* Adopt and implement the Bill on Combatting Trafficking in Persons as an important step towards bringing perpetrators to justice and combatting child and labour trafficking.

We wish Mauritius every success in this UPR cycle.