

**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus**

**Geneva**

***Ambassador Neocleous***

**Intervention by Cyprus**

**24 January 2024, 14:30-18:00**

*Check against delivery*

**Universal Periodic Review**

**45th Session**

**Mexico**

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes the participation of the delegation of Mexico at today’s UPR and expresses its appreciation for its report.

Cyprus commends Mexico on its progress since its last UPR, notably the ratification of the Kampala amendments of the Rome Statute of the ICC, the significant increase of the budget for ensuring compliance with human rights obligations, and the prohibition by law of practices described as conversion therapies.

To tackle existing human rights challenges, Cyprus recommends:

1. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure
2. Step up efforts to combat all forms of gender-based violence against women, including femicide.
3. Ratify the Convention against Discrimination in Education
4. Organize campaigns and educational programmes, to raise awareness of the importance of cultural heritage in all its diversity.

Thank you.