**46th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group - Review of Cyprus**

**30 April 2024**

**Statement by the Delegation of the Kingdom of Bhutan**

Bhutan welcomes the delegation and thanks the delegation for the presentation of their national report.

We commend Cyprus for the many initiatives and concerted efforts in implementing its human rights obligations, despite the challenges arising from the continued division.

We welcome the measures to promote and protect the rights of women such as the adoption of the new Strategy on Equality between Women and Men (2024-26), the establishment of Inter Ministerial Committee of Gender Focal Points and the adoption of the new Action Plan (2023–2028) on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women. We **recommend** Cyprus to continue its efforts in combating gender-based violence through effective implementation of the aforementioned action plans**.**

We note the adoption of the renewed Action Plan on Human Trafficking and the creation of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) to provide appropriate guidance for handling victims. We **recommend** Cyprus to further strengthen its efforts through enhanced capacity building programs and specialized training for law enforcement and other relevant officials**.**

We wish Cyprus a successful review.

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