**United Nations Human Rights Council**

**46th session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Cyprus**

**Geneva, 30 April 2024**

Statement by Portugal

*Speaking time – 1’15*

Chair,

Portugal warmly welcomes the delegation of Cyprus and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

Portugal commends Cyprus for its public health campaign to raise awareness of HIV, including free testing and counselling services.

Portugal recommends that **Cyprus**:

1. Ratifies the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

2. Ensures that detention of asylum seekers is only used as a measure of last resort.

3. Continues its efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings and provide protection for victims.

Portugal wishes Cyprus a successful review.

Thank you.

*113 words*