**Draft Statement of the Republic of Korea**

**The 46th Session of the UPR Working Group**

 **Review of the Dominican Republic**

**(Tuesday, 7 May 2024)**

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Republic of Korea notes with appreciation the efforts by the Dominican Republic to follow up on the recommendations it received during its third cycle, including taking measures to introduce a promotion system for judges based on personal and professional merit, with a view to promoting the institutional independence of judges. We also welcome the measures taken by the Dominican Republic to promote the enjoyment of the right to education in the context of the pandemic.

With such progress in mind, we would like to recommend the following:

1. Continue its efforts to combat trafficking in persons and sexual exploitation, including by considering amending its legislation with a view to ensuring that trafficking acts against children are brought to justice;

2. Take measures towards realizing free and quality primary and secondary education;

3. Step up efforts to improve detention conditions in its prisons, with a view to implementing relevant international human rights law and standards;

We wish the Dominican Republic a successful review.

I thank you.

\* \* \*