**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**Geneva, 6 May 2024**

**UPR 4rd Cycle, Review of Eritrea**

**Statement by Montenegro**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Eritrea and appreciates the country’s engagement with the ongoing UPR process.

We note that certain progress has been made in the area of social rights, including through the access to education, and availability of health care services. However, more efforts need to be invested in order to eliminate harmful practices such as FGM, CEFM.

We reiterate our call to Eritrea from the previous cycle to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and to prevent the recruitment of children into the military.

Montenegro recommends to Eritrea:

1. To constructively engage with the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea as well as with other human rights mechanisms and organizations;
2. To adopt legislation criminalizing all forms of physical, psychological, economic and sexual violence against women;

We wish Eritrea a successful UPR cycle.

Thank you.