**UPR 46 – North Macedonia**

*1’45’’ speaking time*

Chairperson,

Portugal welcomes the delegation of North Macedonia and thanks it for the presentation of its national report.

Portugal commends North Macedonia for criminalizing violence against children and notes the adoption of its national strategy on this matter, while regretting that insufficient resources have been hampering its implementation.

Portugal **recommends** that North Macedonia:

**1.** Steps up the investment in the health sector, to facilitate the universal enjoyment of the right to health without discrimination, in particular to enhance the quality of specialized maternal and child health services;

**2.** Takes measures to eliminate discrimination and ensure the equal access of persons with disabilities to the education system, with a view to realizing their right to education;

**3.** Provides human rights-based and victim-centred training to the judiciary and the police on gender-based violence to effectively implement its law on prevention of and protection from violence against women and domestic violence of 2021.

Portugal wishes North Macedonia a successful review.

Thank you.

*160 words*