

**Permanent Mission of the Republic of Cyprus**

**Geneva**

**Intervention by the Republic of Cyprus,**

**Thursday, 2 May 2024**

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**46th Session**

**Vanuatu**

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes the delegation from Vanuatu to this session of the fourth UPR-cycle and thanks them for their presentation.

We commend Vanuatu for their key role in the intergovernmental efforts to combat climate change that have as a result brought the issue to the International Court of Justice. At the same time, we hope that the political reform laws that were adopted by Parliament in December and that will be subject to a national referendum in May of this year, will lead to greater political stability for the country.

In a constructive spirit, Cyprus recommends that Vanuatu:

* Encourages the active participation of women in public and political life, their inclusion in decision-making processes and their increased participation in the National Parliament as well as local bodies.
* Reviews existing legislations in order to promote and protect gender equality in the public and private spheres, including the elimination of gender-based violence
* Ensures the right to education for all without discrimination, strengthens efforts to increase enrollment rates as well as access to tertiary education.

We wish the delegation of Vanuatu a successful session.