**Statement by the Republic of Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

46th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Viet Nam***

7 May 2024

Thank you, Mr. President,

Bulgaria welcomes the distinguished delegation of Viet Nam and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

We acknowledge the positive developments in the protection of human rights in Viet Nam in implementation of the accepted recommendations within the third cycle of the UPR.

We recognize achievements in public health, especially the well-organized nationwide network of preventive health. We appreciate that inclusive education programmes are being taught at all preschools and secondary schools.

Bulgaria encourages Viet Nam to take further appropriate measures to enhance the protection of the rights of all persons to freedom of expression and association and ensure that human rights activists, journalists, and bloggers can operate freely and safely.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Consider adopting a comprehensive anti-discrimination law that would include relevant definitions and establish an effective mechanism to eliminate discrimination.
2. Take further steps in the field of women's empowerment by facilitating a greater proportion of women in leadership positions in public institutions and private business.
3. Adopt the revised Law on Persons with Disabilities to bring the protection of the rights of people with disabilities into full compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

We wish the Delegation of Viet Nam a successful review!

Thank You, Mr. President!