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

**47th Session of the UPR Working Group - Review of Cote d’Ivoire**

**Statement by Montenegro**

**Geneva, 5 November 2024**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Cote d’Ivoire.

Montenegro welcomes the progress made since the last UPR review, the ratification of the Optional Protocol to CAT and the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.

We took note of the work of the Special Inquiry, Investigation and Counter-Terrorism Unit on conflict-related violence and crimes. We encourage the State to further improve its efforts aimed at bringing perpetrators to justice and ensuring accountability.

We welcome the amendment to the Marriage Law, which sets the minimum age of consent for marriage at 18 years and removes special dispensations as to age.

Montenegro makes the following recommendations:

1. To improve national policies and efforts, including through awareness-raising campaign and educational programs at community level, aimed at changing the traditionally and religiously rooted mindset on early, child and forced marriage, and addressing challenges in this field;
2. To extend a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders.

We wish Cote d’Ivoire a successful UPR cycle.

Thank you.