

*Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève*

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| **WG UPR 47 – Dominica**  ***Intervention of Belgium***  7 November 2024 |

President,

Belgium welcomes the efforts and positive steps made by Dominica since its previous UPR We particularly recognize and welcome the progress made in the fight against domestic violence with the adoption of the Domestic Violence Act in 2023.

Belgium recommends to:

**R1.** Continue this fight by implementing and updating its National Policy and Plan of Action on Gender Equality, which dates from 2006.

Belgium further recommends Dominica to:

**R2.** Reform the legislation to decriminalize abortion in case of fetal malformations incompatible with extra uterine life and in case of pregnancies resulting from rape or incest.

**R3.** Continue efforts to facilitate a public dialogue with members of the parliament and the general public about the rights enshrined in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, including the right to life under Article 6, with the aim of the process being the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the Covenant.

Thank you.