**Universal Periodic Review of the Argentine Republic**

**6 November 2017
Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia warmly welcomes the delegation of Argentina to its third UPR.

We welcome efforts by the Government for the prevention and eradication of gender based and domestic violence, especially the adoption of the first National Action Plan for Prevention, Protection, Assistance and Eradication of Violence against Women 2017-2019. Furthermore, we note the efforts of Argentina to reduce maternal mortality and to improve the accessibility of services related to sexual and reproductive rights, and encourage the Government to continue this progress.

We further welcome the setting up of the Indigenous Peoples’ Advisory and Participatory Council, and the establishment of the National Health Programme for Indigenous Peoples with the aim of reducing inequalities in the health status of indigenous peoples and reducing morbidity and mortality among the indigenous population. We remain concerned about the acts of retaliation, intimidation and threats against human rights defenders and members of indigenous peoples, and we urge Argentina to take all necessary means to protect them.

The poor conditions of the detention centres in Argentina remains a concern and in this context, we urge the Government to take steps to reduce the overcrowding and guarantee fundamental needs of persons detained.

Finally, we would like to recommend to the Government of Argentina to:

1. allocate adequate budgetary resources for the effective implementation of the National Action Plan for Prevention, Protection, Assistance and Eradication of Violence against Women and to ensure that sufficient safe shelters for women are available;
2. ensure that indigenous peoples are fully involved in the process of drafting legislative or administrative measures that could affect indigenous peoples, and that projects affecting them would be subjected to a process of prior consultation;
3. establish a national mechanism for the prevention of torture as set out in the OP-CAT.

Estonia wishes the delegation a successful review meeting.

Thank you!