**Review of Switzerland – intervention by Poland**

*(Geneva, 9 November)*

Poland would like to thank the delegation of Switzerland for a constructive participation in the UPR process. We appreciate the presentation of its informative national report.

We welcome the ongoing efforts by the authorities of Switzerland aimed at fostering protection of human rights. In this regard, Poland notes with appreciation the decision to turn the Swiss Centre for Expertise in Human Rights into a national human rights institution. Considering establishing a national institution in compliance with the Paris Principles was one of our recommendations during last Swiss UPR conducted in 2012. We believe that this move would reinforce the legal and institutional framework for the protection and promotion of human rights in Switzerland, if only it receives a broad mandate and will be able to monitor the implementation of human rights standards at all levels of Swiss administration.

At the same time, we notice that according to national survey on diversity and coexistence in Switzerland in 2016 two thirds of the population recognize racism as a key social problem. It clearly proves that an improvement in education and awareness-rising aimed at combating prejudices against ethnic minorities is needed.

Poland would like to offer the following recommendations to Switzerland:

* to intensify efforts to implement measures to encourage peaceful coexistence among all populations and combat marginalization,
* to promote inter-ethnic dialogue and tolerance, particularly at the cantonal and communal levels.