**Intervention by the Republic of Cyprus**

**Friday, 22 January 2021, 09.00-12.30**

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**37th Session**

**AUSTRIA**

Madam President,

Cyprus welcomes the participation of the Austrian delegation at today’s UPR, as well as the presentation of its Report.

Cyprus commends Austria’s long-standing commitment to protecting and promoting human rights, including but not limited to the rights of children and freedom of expression. We also welcome that Austria withdrew its reservations to CEDAW and CRC.

Cyprus would like to make the following recommendations:

* Ensure the thorough investigation of human trafficking cases and the prosecution of perpetrators to justice;
* Continue applying measures to protect asylum seekers by facilitating the asylum application process and the relocation of asylum seekers to Austria;
* Continue efforts in supporting persons with disabilities by ensuring their accessibility to the labour market and social welfare benefits.

Thank you.