**UPR37**

**Oman**

*21 January 2021*

**STATEMENT BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

The Czech Republic welcomes the delegation of Oman and thanks for the presentation of its national report.

We appreciate that since the last review, the sultanate has acceded to important international (human rights) instruments - the CAT, ICESCR (the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights) and CED (the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance). We further welcome the active protection of freedom of religion.

While acknowledging the progress made, we further **recommend**:

1. Firstly, to ratify the ICCPR (the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights).
2. Secondly, to guarantee the freedoms of association, peaceful assembly and expression (which are limited by the new Penal Code and other laws); to expand its dialogue with civil society and create an enabling environment for civil society organizations.
3. Thirdly, (while acknowledging the executive decree of 2019 clarifying provisions of the Child Law), to further increase protection of children against any form of violence and abuse and to enshrine the right to education for all children in the Basic Law.
4. Fourthly, given the large number of expatriate workers in Oman and taking into account shortcomings of labour laws (and the restrictive kafala (sponsorship) system), to continue efforts to promote and protect the rights of expatriate workers.
5. Fifthly, (even though there have been no formal reports of executions since 2001), to abolish the death penalty.

Thank you.