**Statement of Kazakhstan at UPR Review of Austria**

**22/02/2021**

Kazakhstan welcomes the third UPR report of Austria. We commend the reforms undertaken since the second cycle of UPR.  Particularly, we note that the Protection against Violence Act was adopted in 2019 to enhance protection of survivors of sexual violence and strengthen cooperation between relevant institutions.

In the spirit of constructive engagement, we make the following two recommendations:

- Ensure that the Austrian Ombudsman Board fully complies with the Paris Principles and has sufficient human and financial resources to perform its role independently.

-Develop a national human rights action plan in line with OHCHR guidelines to ensure participation of civil society.

We wish Austria a successful review.

I thank you.