**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

37th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Mauritania***

19 January 2021

Madame/Mr. Vice-President,

Bulgaria warmly welcomes the delegation of Mauritania and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

We commend the progress that has been made, especially in the area of promotion of children’s rights in line with the accepted recommendations during the second UPR.

We note the recent update in 2019 of the National Strategy for the Protection of Children, as well as the non-discriminatory approach to child protection cases and the creation of a better protective environment for children.

Nevertheless, further progress is needed, especially with a view to eliminate all forms of discrimination against girls and against children from disadvantaged or vulnerable groups, including children with disabilities.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations to Mauritania:

1. Intensify its efforts to eliminate discrimination against girls and against children from disadvantaged or vulnerable groups, through awareness-raising programmes aimed at creating an enabling environment that will promote equality among children.
2. Ensure that all children with disabilities, including in rural and remote communities, have access to adequate health-care and to guarantee all children with disabilities the right to inclusive education.

We wish the Delegation of Mauritania a successful review!

Thank you.