**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE**

**REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA**

**to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva**

**Check against delivery**

**37th Session of the UPR Working Group**

**- Georgia -**

**Statement delivered by**

**H.E. Ms. Teuta Agai-Demjaha,**

**Permanent Representative of North Macedonia**

*Geneva, January 26, 2021*

Madam President,

North Macedonia welcomes the delegation of Georgia.

We acknowledge the commitment of Georgia to the UPR process and the various activities undertaken by the Government, including the midterm report submitted in March 2019.

We welcome the development and further strengthening of the legal framework for the protection of human rights in Georgia, especially the 2020 amendments to the regulatory framework.

We are commending the significant steps taken by the Georgian authorities towards gender equality and gender-based violence. Nevertheless, we note that domestic violence remains a concern and that significant steps are needed for the training of professionals and raising public awareness.

We note with appreciation the measures for protection and support of children and their rights, such as adoption of the Code on the Rights of the Child and establishment of the Parliamentary Standing Council for the Protection of Child Rights.

We recommend the following to Georgia:

- To take all necessary measures to ensure the protection of women and children - victims of domestic violence.

We wish Georgia a successful UPR cycle.

I thank you Madam President.