­­ARMENIA

January 18, 2021

37th Session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Lebanon

Delivered by Mrs. Zoya Stepanyan, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Armenia

Madam President,

 Armenia warmly welcomes the Delegation of Lebanon to the UPR and wishes successful review.

 Last year was particularly challenging for fraternal people of Lebanon. The healthcare, social and economic hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic were exacerbated by devastating explosion in the port of Beirut creating dire humanitarian situation. We are confident that Lebanon will emerge from these tragedies stronger further strengthening its democratic institutions and unique multicultural fabric of society.

 We note that number of legislative and institutional reforms have been undertaken in human rights related areas. We particularly welcome establishment of National Human Rights Commission with a designated Committee on the Prevention of Torture, as well as establishment of National Anti-Corruption Agency.

 In the area of protection of children - we are pleased to note that Lebanon is studying the possibility of ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict and recommend accession to this important human rights treaty.