**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other International Organizations**

**STATEMENT BY MONTENEGRO**

**3rd UPR cycle – Review of Somalia**

**Geneva, 6 May 2021**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Somalia.

Montenegro recognizes the Somali Government's efforts to improve the human rights situation, including its positive engagement and cooperation with treaty bodies and mechanisms.

In light of the ongoing conflict in Somalia, we note with concern the unacceptably high level of reported civilian casualties. The long-standing humanitarian crisis [experienced by Somalia] has been aggravated by the coronavirus pandemic and environmental disasters. As documented, these challenges have resulted in further displacement of populations and exacerbated existing inequalities, discrimination and protection gaps.

We reiterate our call to the Government to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Montenegro recommends to Somalia:

1. That national legislation explicitly prohibits any form of discrimination in education as defined by the Convention against Discrimination in Education.
2. To ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in arm conflict.

We wish Somalia a successful UPR cycle.

I thank you.