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**Statement**

**Delivered by**

**the Permanent Mission of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana**

**Universal Periodic Review of Estonia**

**May 4, 2021**

Madam President,

Guyana welcomes the Delegation of Estonia and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

Guyana commends Estonia for progress achieved in the promotion and protection of human rights, and for establishing a National Human Rights Institution in 2019.

Guyana also applauds positive steps taken by Estonia to address discrimination and to promote social inclusion and gender equality within the framework of its “Welfare Development Plan for 2016–2023”.

In a constructive spirit, we offer the following recommendations:

1. strengthen existing machinery for the advancement of women by providing adequate human, technical and financial resources at the central and municipal levels and enhance efforts to enforce the right to equal pay;
2. increase government funding for gender equality and equal treatment programmes;
3. ensure the effective investigation and prosecution of violence against women, by continuing to pursue training for law enforcement and judicial officials, and strengthen mechanisms to provide legal assistance to victims.

We wish Estonia a successful review.

Thank you.