Statement by the Republic of Lithuania

UPR38 – Latvia

 11th May 2021

Thank you, President.

Lithuania warmly welcomes the delegation of Latvia and thanks it for its National Report.

We acknowledge the determined efforts by Latvia in implementing the recommendations accepted during the second UPR cycle, including those submitted by Lithuania. In particular, we welcome the incorporation of the *Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment* into the national legislation and **recommend** to ratify the *Optional Protocol* to the said Convention.

Lithuania commends Latvia’s active role in promoting and protecting human rights, especially as a member of the *UN Commission on the Status of Women* and of the UN *Economic and Social Council*.

Lithuania wishes to offer Latvia two more **recommendations**:

-first, to design and implement concrete measures for the reduction of the gender pay gap.

-and second, to increase cooperation with civil society organizations in project activities to combat all types of discrimination, including hate speech.

We wish Latvia a successful review.