**Universal Periodic Review, 38th session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Niger, 3 May 2021**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Denmark welcomes the delegation of Niger and commends the Government for its focus on education of girls.

However, we note that the legal framework relating to child, early and forced marriages is still inadequate.

*Denmark recommends the Government to regulate customary and strengthen statutory laws, including article 144 in the Civil Code, to increase the age of marriage for girls to 18 and include criminal sanctions for non-compliance*.

We are concerned about laws that could penalise peaceful activities linked to fundamental rights of freedom of expression, association and assembly.

*Denmark recommends the Government to bring its legislation on cybercrime and terrorism in line with ICCPR, and to narrow the definition of terrorism in Ordinance No. 2011-12 of 2011.*

Thank you.