**Statement by the State of Palestine at the Universal Periodic Review of Niger,3rd of May 2021**

Thank you Madam President,

The State of Palestine welcomes the delegation of the Niger to the third cycle of the UPR. We commend the efforts made by the government since the second cycle of the UPR to abide by its international commitments, including the progress made with regard to the ratification of international instruments, the rights to health, education and the efforts to reform the judicial system.

We welcome the steps taken by the Niger to improve the educational system in the country including the efforts to include human rights education in the school curricula, in this regard we would like to **recommend the Niger to consider amending legislation on education to make primary and secondary education free and to ensure that everyone was guaranteed a legal right to education.**

We also acknowledge the efforts of the Niger to combat trafficking in persons and slavery. **We recommend that the Niger continues its efforts to strengthen its institutional mechanisms to Combat Trafficking in Persons and to ensure that all cases of slavery and trafficking in persons, including those involving children, were investigated and perpetrators are held to account.**

We wish the Niger a successful review.

I thank you