**UPR 38**

**(Geneva, 3-14 May 2021)**

**Review of Somalia**

**Statement by Greece**

Thank you Madam President

Greece welcomes the delegation of Somalia to the UPR.

We note the commitments to strengthen the protection of children affected by armed conflict, as well as to implement a new national action plan on ending sexual violence in conflict, and encourage Somalia to fulfill them.

Greece is however concerned by reports of grave human rights violations and abuses, and notably of excessive use of force by the police against civilians, including alleged torture, beatings, threats, harassment and arbitrary arrests of civilians, especially journalists, human rights defenders and persons suspected of terrorism.

**Greece would like to recommend that Somalia:**

1. Review the amended Media Bill and reform criminal law provisions in a way compatible with Somalia’s international obligations and commitments regarding the safety of journalists and freedom of expression;
2. Accelerate measures to ensure accountability for human rights violations by the police, and provide adequate human rights training to all security forces, especially in the area of addressing sexual violence.
3. Take immediate measures aiming to combat sexual and gender-based violence, including conflict-related violence, female genital mutilation and early and forced marriage, and to ensure accountability for these violations and abuses.

Greece wishes the Delegation of Somalia every success in implementing the recommendations received today.

I thank you.