**UPR38**

**Somalia**

*6th May 2021*

**STATEMENT BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

The Czech Republic welcomes the delegation of Somalia. However, we regret that none of our previous recommendations were implemented.

Therefore, we once again **recommend** the following:

1. Adopt concrete measures to end the enrolment of children in insurgent and regional armed forces and ratify and implement the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.
2. Protect journalists and ensure the freedom of expression and independence of the media.
3. Ensure equal participation of citizens in political and public affairs.
4. Tackle sexual violence and immediately reject the law legalising early child marriage, reducing the sentence for forced marriage and decriminalising many sexually motivated crimes.

Thank you.