

**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AT GENEVA**

**38TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**PARAGUAY**

Fiji welcomes the delegation of Paraguay and commends Paraguay for taking action on climate change, including by joining the Paris Agreement and implementing domestic legislation and national action plans.

Fiji offers the following recommendations:

1. Ensure that women, children, persons with disabilities, minority groups, and local communities are meaningfully engaged in the development and implementation of climate change and disaster risk reduction frameworks.
2. Consider progressive law reforms on the protection of journalists and human rights defenders across all sectors, further guaranteeing media freedom and freedom of expression.
3. Ensure accountability for all human rights violations against journalists and human rights defenders, with the full ascertainment of the facts surrounding the violations and disclosure to the victims and their families.
4. Continue efforts to build and strengthen the national mechanism for the prevention of torture, ensuring that it is adequately resourced and empowered to fulfil its functions.