**Statement by the Delegation of the Kingdom of Bhutan at the 38th Session of the UPR Working Group**

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**Country Under Review : Latvia**

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Bhutan welcomes the delegation of Latvia to the Third Cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

We note with appreciation the measures taken for the promotion and protection of human rights, including legislative amendments to ensure gender equality and prohibit gender-based discrimination. We would like to commend Latvia for being recognized as one of the countries worldwide that ensures full gender equality in laws.

While welcoming the efforts taken by Latvia in addressing gender equality and gender-based violence, in a constructive spirit, we recommend the following:

1. consider adoption of a comprehensive legislation on gender-based violence against women.
2. consider additional measures such as comprehensive gender equality strategy and gender-based budgeting strategy to address gender-based discrimination.

We wish Latvia a successful review.

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