**Intervention by the Republic of Cyprus**

**Monday, 11 May 2021**

**Mr. Christos Makriyiannis**

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**38th Session**

**Latvia**

Madam President,

Cyprus welcomes the participation of the Delegation from Latvia at today’s UPR, as well as the presentation of its Report.

Cyprus commends Latvia for its strong commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights. In this regard, Cyprus welcomes the progress achieved in integrating minority groups, as well as the measures to widen the scope of action by civil society organisations.

Cyprus makes the following recommendations:

1. Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence;
2. Ratify OP-CAT;
3. Create a mechanism to identify potential victims of human trafficking;
4. Apply effective measures to prevent and eradicate human trafficking by promptly prosecuting and punishing perpetrators.

Thank you.