**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

39th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Antigua and Barbuda***

8 November 2021

Madame President,

Bulgaria welcomes the delegation of Antigua and Barbuda and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria praises the prompt actions of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to mitigate the adversely impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and devastating effects of the Hurricane Irma on the population of the country.

Bulgaria appreciates that Antigua and Barbuda has enhanced the child protection and child justice legislative framework. We commend that the policies for the education of children with disabilities adhere to the concept of “inclusive education”.

We acknowledge the adoption of the Disabilities and Equal Opportunities Act of 2017 that has introduced comprehensive protection of the rights of persons with disabilities.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Take further steps to promote women’s empowerment in political and public life.
2. Continue to improve the health-care system with measures to allocate more resources and upgrade infrastructure, in order to strengthen the maternal health.

We wish the Delegation of Antigua and Barbuda a successful review!

Thank you.