**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**Statement by Montenegro**

**3rd UPR Cycle – Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

**Geneva, 3 November 2021**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

Montenegro recognizes the country’s efforts to improve the human rights legislative framework, and its reporting on the implementation of international human rights obligations.

Montenegro commends Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for ratifying the majority of the core international human rights treaties, but also notes that the country is encouraged to consider ratifying or acceding to additional human rights instruments. In this regard, while welcoming the fact that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines had established a de facto moratorium on the death penalty, we share concerns that it remained in the Criminal Code.

Since the country is highly exposed to the impact of climate change, we note with appreciation the development of a National Climate Change Policy with its accompanying National Climate Strategy and Implementation Plan, and the Nationally Determined Contributions. We also welcome the country’s efforts to achieve sustainable economic growth, including through the implementation of the National Economic and Social Development Plan 2013–2025. [However, as the children’s poverty remain among major challenges, it is advisable that the Government consider developing the National Poverty Reduction Strategy, which specifically address the children’s rights, in particular those living in rural areas.]

Montenegro recommends to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines:

* To establish an official moratorium on the death penalty, and conduct appropriate awareness-raising measures to mobilize public opinion for the abolition of the death penalty;
* To ensure that national anti-discrimination legislation provide for full and effective protection against discrimination in all spheres and prohibit direct, indirect and multiple discrimination.

Montenegro wishes Saint Vincent and the Grenadines a successful UPR cycle.

I thank you.