**Ms. Andrea Petranyi, DPR**

**Intervention by the Republic of Cyprus**

**Thursday, 4 November 2021, 09.00-12.30**

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**39th Session**

**PAPAUA NEW GUINEA**

Madam President,

Cyprus welcomes the delegation from Papua New Guinea. Acknowledging the efforts exerted over the past few years, we would however encourage timely submission of national reports.

Papua New Guinea’s comprehensive set of environmental protection laws and policies are commendable, and we look forward to the implementation of a rights-based approach to all future environmental policies and regulations.

Cyprus would like to offer the following recommendations:

1. Request technical assistance for the timely preparation and submission of reports to the United Nations treaty bodies.
2. Expedite ratification of the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Punishment, the Optional Protocol of the Convention Against Torture, and the two optional Protocols on the Convention of the Rights of the Child.
3. Limit capital crimes with the aim of abolishing the death penalty.
4. Thoroughly investigate acts of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence and sorcery related violence, and prosecute perpetrators.

Thank you, Madam President.