Statement by the Republic of Lithuania

UPR40 – South Sudan

31st January 2022

Thank you, President.

Lithuania welcomes the delegation of South Sudan and thanks it for its National Report.

We express our concern about the vulnerable political and security situation in the country, as well as outstanding humanitarian and human rights challenges, including widespread violence, food insecurity and shrinking civic space.

Lithuania wishes to offer South Sudan the following recommendations:

* First, to fully implement the provisions of the *Revitalized Peace Agreement*, and ensure the timely investigation of all allegations of serious violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law.
* Second, to adopt legal acts for free, fair and sustainable elections and implement reforms towards good governance.
* Third, to establish an official moratorium on executions with a view to abolish the death penalty.
* Forth, to develop and implement targeted policies and initiatives to prevent harassment, arbitrary arrest and detention, enforced disappearance and killing of human rights defender, journalists and media workers.
* Fifth, to facilitate humanitarian access and protect aid workers.

Lithuania wishes South Sudan a successful review.

I thank you.