**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other International Organizations**

**Statement by Montenegro**

**3rd UPR cycle – Review of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela**

**Geneva, 25 January 2022**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and its engagement in the UPR process.

Montenegro welcomes an enlarged presence of the OHCHR in the country which followed the renewed Letter of Understanding.

We also acknowledge the establishment of an independent international fact-finding mission with a view to ensuring accountability for the most serious crimes and justice for victims, and extension of its mandate.

Montenegro recommends to the Venezuelan authorities:

1. To strengthen the National Commission for the Prevention of Torture, Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment, in compliance with international human rights norms, and guarantee the representation of all institutions as indicated by the law;
2. To implement a comprehensive reform of security institutions and policies, to effectively address human rights concerns and provide redress to victims of human rights violations.

We wish the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela a successful UPR cycle.

I thank you.