**Intervention by Cyprus**

**Wednesday, 26 January 2022**

**Ms. Olympia NEOCLEOUS**

**Permanent Representative**

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**40th Session**

**Lithuania**

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes the participation of the Delegation from Lithuania at today’s UPR, as well as the presentation of its Report.

Cyprus commends Lithuania for its strong commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights. In this regard, Cyprus welcomes the progress achieved in many fields, including children’s rights, by signing the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure and migrants’ rights while addressing unprecedented irregular influxes.

Cyprus makes the following recommendations:

1. Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence;
2. Intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination, including hate speech, and hate crimes based on ethnicity, religion, including antisemitism and sexual orientation;
3. Take further measures to ensure eradication of human trafficking, by thoroughly investigating relevant cases and holding perpetrators into account.

Thank you.