Statement by the Republic of Lithuania

UPR41 – Bahrain

7th November 2022

80 sec. – 219 words

Thank you, Mr. President.

Lithuania welcomes the delegation of Bahrain and commends the government for its dedication to the UPR process, and its efforts to protect human rights, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic.

We acknowledge the adoption of the *National Human Rights Plan*, aiming to improve legislation and institutional development.

However, we are concerned about the allegations of intimidation, arbitrary arrests and imprisonment of human rights defenders and journalists. We remain deeply concerned about the maintenance of the death penalty and the executions carried out.

Lithuania wishes to offer Bahrain the following recommendations:

* First, to ratify the OP CAT (*Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment)* and the *International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance*.
* Second, to consider declaring an official moratorium on executions with a view to the ratification of the *Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR* and the abolishment of the death penalty.
* Third, to investigate promptly, thoroughly and impartially all allegations against human rights defenders and journalists imprisoned due to the exercise of their rights to freedoms of expression, peaceful assembly and association.
* Fourth, to enable women to transfer nationality to their children without restriction and on equal basis to men.

We wish Bahrain a successful review.

I thank you.