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**UPR41**

**BAHRAIN**

 *7th November 2022*

**Statement by the Czech Republic**

The Czech Republic welcomes the delegation of Bahrain.

We welcome the adoption of Bahrain's **National Plan for Human Rights** in April 2022. We have noted **improvements** in **health care of detainees** andin the area of **juvenile justice**. We also noted the intention **to combat religious discrimination**.

Notwithstanding the progress made, we recommend that the Government of Bahrain:

* Extends a **standing invitation** to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council.
* Ratifies or accedes to the OP-CAT (Optional Protocol to the UN Convention against **Torture)** and the CED (International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from **Enforced Disappearance)**.
* Stops the **persecution under extensive anti-terrorism laws** of human rights defenders, journalists and civil society organizations for exercising their fundamental rights.
* Allows all citizens to freely exercise their rights to **freedom of expression**, association and assembly without restrictions.
* Strengthens measures to **ensure gender equality** and repeals all discriminatory provisions against women and girls.
* Takes steps to **abolish the death penalty**, including by reinstating the moratorium.

Thank you.