**Statement by Kazakhstan**

**41 Session of UPR Working Group**

**Finland**

**09/11/2022, 2:30 pm**

Kazakhstan welcomes the delegation of Finland and has taken note of the country’s fourth universal periodic report.

We commend Finland’s strong commitment to tackling violence against women and girls, including the establishment of awareness campaigns, the opening of a telephone hotline. We also appreciate the country’s work to promote and protect the human rights for refugees, migrants and ethnic minorities. Particularly, the Government’s action programme to combat racism and to promote good relations adopted in October 2021, the new Action Plan against Trafficking in Human Beings.

My delegation would like to make the following **recommendations** to the country:

* Continue its good efforts to address violence against women.
* Enhance its efforts to increase women’s participation in the public and private sectors and their representation at all levels, especially for women with disabilities or ethnic minority backgrounds.
* Decriminalize defamation and place it within a civil code in accordance with international standards.

We wish the delegation of Finland a successful review.