UPR NATIONAL STATEMENT SOUTH AFRICA

Thank you Mr. President,

Greece warmly welcomes the delegation of South Africa to the UPR.

We recognise the progress achieved since the last UPR cycle. We commend the establishment of the TIP Act, towards addressing issues of human trafficking and accountability of offenders. We also welcome the introduction of Commissions of Inquiry to thoroughly investigate and prosecute corruption cases.

Greece recommends that South Africa:

1) Continue efforts to increase accountability on all manifestations of racism and xenophobia including those targeting refugees, asylum seekers and migrants

2)Ensure that the right of freedom of assembly is effectively safeguarded, including the creation of a safe space for human rights defenders and civil society organisations

3)Take concrete steps to improve the safety of journalists, investigate incidents of attacks on journalists, and implement the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity

We wish South Africa a successful UPR review

I thank you.