**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

41st session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of the Netherlands***

15 November 2022

Mr. President,

Bulgaria welcomes the Delegation of the Netherlands and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

We recognize that the Netherlands continues to enhance its legal, institutional and policy framework for protection of human rights while taking into account the accepted recommendations of the third UPR cycle.

Bulgaria acknowledges the achievements of the Netherlands to bring its legislation in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability, ratified in 2016. We note with appreciation the renewal in 2020 of the “A” status of the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights, which is a further confirmation of its compliance with the Paris Principles. We highlight the progress made in facilitating accessibility of governmental services for all under the second National Human Rights Action Plan.

Bulgaria would like to make the following two recommendations:

1. Take further steps towards enhancing equality between women and men and increase women’s representation in decision-making positions at higher level;
2. Adopt a strategy to ensure access of all children with disabilities to inclusive education.

We wish the Delegation of the Netherlands a successful outcome of the review!

Thank you.