**Statement of the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**The 42st Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)**

**Switzerland**

**Geneva, 27th January 2023**

**Mr. President,**

- The Kingdom of Bahrain welcomes the delegation of Switzerland, and thanks them for their presentation.

- We commend Switzerland’s commitment to the promotion of human rights, in specific, its efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. And we welcome its efforts towards preventing and combating domestic violence.

**- In spirit of constructive cooperation, we offer the following recommendations:**

1. Continue efforts to combat discrimination and intolerance, with regards to the rights of refugees and migrant workers,
2. Effectively monitor policies that target women empowerment,
3. Intensify efforts to promote freedom of religion in schools and media outlets,
4. Establish a national plan to effectively combat islamophobia and religious hate speech.

The Kingdom of Bahrain wishes Switzerland a successful review.

**Thank you, Mr. President**