**Universal Periodic Review, 42nd session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Guatemala, 25th January 2023**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Thank you Mr. President,

Denmark welcomes the delegation of Guatemala and thanks it for its presentation.

We commend Guatemala for adopting General Instruction no. 5-2018, approving a protocol for the investigation of crimes against human rights defenders. However, we are concerned by the continuously high number of attacks on human rights defenders as well as for the widespread impunity across the country.

*Denmark therefore recommends Guatemala to renew the mandate of the International Commission against Impunity in Guatemala.*

While we acknowledge Guatemala’s continuous and active involvement in promoting and protecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples, we remain concerned about reports that Indigenous Peoples have been forcibly evicted from their territories.

*Denmark therefore recommends Guatemala to guarantee the right to free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples in relation to policies, projects and legislation that may affect them, in accordance with human rights standards.*

Denmark wishes Guatemala a successful review.

I thank you.