*Amb. O. Neocleous*

**Intervention by Cyprus**

**26 January 2023, 14:30-18:00**

**Universal Periodic Review**

**42nd Session**

**Republic of Korea**

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes the participation of the Republic of Korea at today’s UPR as well as the presentation of its report.

Cyprus welcomes the Republic of Korea’s implementation of a number of the recommendations from its previous UPR, including the establishment and implementation of the first Basic Plan for the Protection and Promotion of Cultural Diversity, as well as strengthening legislation combating abuse and discrimination against persons with disabilities.

Cyprus recommends to:

1. Formally abolish the death penalty and commute death sentences to lesser punishment or full pardons;
2. Allow conscientious objectors to carry out an appropriate alternative service of a genuinely civilian character;
3. Implement necessary legislative measures to incorporate the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in national legislation;
4. Strengthen efforts to combat violence against women and girls and gender-based violence.

Thank you.

*G. Samouel*