**Statement by Romania**

**The 42nd session of the UPR Working Group: Review of Pakistan**

**January 30th, 2023**

Mr. President,

Romania welcomes Pakistan’s delegation and wishes it a successful outcome of the UPR.

We appreciate its continued commitment to this process and the cooperation with the UN human rights mechanisms as well as the efforts to comply with its international human rights obligations while facing unprecedented socio-economic challenges posed by the devastating floods and the Covid-19 outbreak.

With the hope that future progress would offset the reported limited effects of recommendations accepted during the last UPR exercise, we would like to constructively recommend Pakistan to:

1. Adopt a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women, covering all internationally recognized prohibited grounds of discrimination and ensure that the legislation criminalizes all forms of gender-based violence against women and enforces the principle of equal pay for work of equal value;
2. Uphold international human rights commitments and guarantee protection under the law as equal citizens for all religious or belief communities;
3. Adopt and implement human rights-consistent adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures that will adequately protect people from the climate crisis’ impact.

Thank you, Mr. President!