**Statement by Malta at the 42nd Session of the Universal Periodic Review – Pakistan – 30 January 2023**

Intervention by H.E. Christopher Grima, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Malta to the UN

*Check against delivery*

Malta welcomes the delegation of Pakistan and thanks it for the presentation of the national report. Malta would like to make the following recommendations:

* Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
* Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights aiming at the Abolition of the Death Penalty.
* Consider repealing all punitive and discriminatory laws that criminalise any or all aspects of consensual sexual relationship between adult persons of same sex or gender.

We wish the delegation of Pakistan a successful review session.