**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA DURING THE REVIEW OF THE UPR REPORT OF CZECHIA AT THE 42ND SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**23 JANUARY-3 FEBRUARY 2023**

**23 JANURAY- 9:00AM-12:30PM**

**Thank you Mr Vice President,**

The Gambia warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Czechia and thank them for their continued and constructive engagement with the Universal Periodic Review mechanism.

We wish to commend Czechia’s efforts to address equal representation in decision-making positions and gender-based violence through the formulation and adoption of the Government Strategy for Gender Equality 2021-2030.

**Mr Vice President,**

The Gambia would like to make the following recommendations to the delegation of Czechia;

1. That Czechia ensures better access to social services for children with disabilities and their families by addressing the inefficient support, planning, and financing of those services.

2. That Czechia put in place and strengthen other support mechanisms for persons with disabilities rather than restricting their legal capacities through the court.

3. That Czechia offer better support to women victims of domestic and sexual violence by strengthening training mechanisms for police officers, security personnel, and the judiciary to address unreported and unprosecuted cases.

**Mr Vice President,**

In conclusion, The Gambia wishes the distinguished delegation of Czechia a successful review and fruitful deliberations.

**Thank you.**