Statement by the Republic of Lithuania

UPR43 –Montenegro

8th May 2023

Thank you, Mr. President.

Lithuania warmly welcomes the delegation of Montenegro and thanks it for its National Report.

We commend Montenegro’s active role as a member of the UN Human Rights Council and all its efforts to promote and protect human rights at home and abroad.

Lithuania particularly commends the adoption of strategies for gender equality, for social inclusion of Roma and Balkan Egyptians, as well as for the protection from discrimination of persons with disabilities and promotion of equality.

Lithuania wishes to offer Montenegro the following recommendations:

* One, strengthen measures to promote a safer and more enabling environment for journalists to perform their work independently and without undue interference.
* Two, consider developing and implementing programmes to protect, rehabilitate and socially integrate child victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation.
* Three, take steps to ensure adequate access to justice and free legal aid for the victims of domestic and gender-based violence, and provide appropriate training for justice and law enforcement officers dealing with such cases.
* Four, enhance efforts to increase the level of representation of women in decision-making positions in the public and private sectors.

We wish Montenegro a successful review.

I thank you.