**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**UPR 4 Cycle - Review of Serbia**

**Statement by Montenegro**

**Geneva, 10 May 2023**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Republic of Serbia and its commitment to the UPR process.

Montenegro commends Serbia for its active cooperation with the OHCHR as well as the special procedure mandate holders and other human rights instruments, as also evidenced by the ratification of a significant number of ILO conventions.

We welcome progress achieved in the protection and promotion of human rights since the previous UPR, particularly in strengthening the anti-discrimination framework. In this regard, we positively note the adoption of the amended Law on the Prohibition of Discrimination and the 2021-2030 Anti-Discrimination Strategy with the accompanying Action Plan. The adoption of strategies related to the development of education and the improvement of the rights of persons with disabilities as well as the Roma population is also noted and appreciated. [Likewise, we look forward to the swift endorsement of the prepared draft law on same-sex unions.]

Montenegro recommends to Serbia:

1. To expedite the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure;
2. To improve disaggregated data collection on minorities and further promote the representation of minorities in public institutions at the national and local levels.
3. To develop a comprehensive strategy to combat all forms of gender-based violence against women and ensure victims' unimpeded access to effective protection against violence;

We wish Serbia a successful UPR cycle.

Thank you.