*G. Samouel*

**Intervention by Cyprus**

**8 May 2023, 09:00-12:30**

**Universal Periodic Review**

**43rd Session**

**Montenegro**

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes the delegation of Montenegroand expresses its appreciation for the presentation of its report.

Cyprus acknowledges the continued efforts of Montenegro to respect, promote, protect, and fulfil human rights. In this regard, we welcome the adoption of the 2021-2025 Gender Equality Strategy and the adoption of the Law on Same-sex Civil Partnerships.

Cyprus makes the following recommendations:

1. Introduce a minimum legal age for marriage in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child;
2. Adopt a legal definition of torture that includes all elements contained in the Convention against Torture;
3. Ensure the Law on Prohibition of Discrimination is fully in line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women;
4. Take necessary measures to strengthen media freedom and the protection of journalists.

Thank you