**National Statement delivered by Mr. Afaq Ahmed, Counsellor,**

**during the 4th UPR Review of The Bahamas**

**(43rd Session of UPR)**

**03 May 2023**

Mr. President,

We welcome and thank the delegation of The Bahamas for presentation of its 4th UPR report.

Despite the challenges posed by Hurricane Dorian, negative effects of climate change and the socioeconomic impact of Covid-19 pandemic, we recognize The Bahamas’ cooperation with the UN human rights mechanisms.

We appreciate the measures taken to further the human rights agenda, including the ratification of Convention against Torture, enactment of The Sexual Offenders Regulations 2019 and the Climate Change and Carbon Market Initiatives Act 2022.

We have the following recommendations:

* Mobilize and seek greater access to climate finance to effectively address the issue of mitigation and adaptation;
* Continue its efforts to improve prison conditions and juvenile detention facilities; and
* Strengthen healthcare infrastructure, especially related to child and maternal health.

We wish The Bahamas a successful UPR.

I thank you!