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

**during the 4th UPR Review of Barbados**

**(43rd Session of UPR)**

**05 May 2023**

Mr. President,

We welcome the delegation of Barbados and thank it for presentation of the 4th UPR report.

We welcome the continued cooperation of Barbados with UN human rights mechanisms and appreciate the measures taken to further human rights agenda, including through ratification of international instruments, legislative enactments such as the Prevention of Corruption Act, Employment (Prevention of Discrimination) Act, 2020 and the National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking 2021-2023 and other institutional steps.

We have the following recommendations:

* Further reinforce measures for realization of people’s right to adequate housing and standard of living;
* Continue to strengthen legal and policy frameworks to combat violence against women and gender inequality; and
* Continued measures for strengthening the National Disabilities Unit and ensuring equitable access of persons with disabilities to education and health services.

We wish Barbados a successful UPR.

I thank you!