**43rd Session of the UPR working group**

 **Recommendations by Finland to Burundi**

**4th May 2023**

Mr. President,

Finland welcomes the engagement of Burundi in the UPR. We acknowledge the progress made concerning human rights and good governance, resulting in the lifting of sanctions, and commend Burundi’s engagement in dialogue. Finland recommends:

1. Firstly, to undertake immediately independent, effective and impartial investigations into allegations of extrajudicial executions and unlawful and excessive use of force by security forces, and prosecute those suspected of being responsible

1. Secondly, to allow civil society activists, journalists and human rights organizations to carry out their work without obstruction and reprisals, including by lifting the legal and financial measures targeting them
2. Thirdly, to decriminalize homosexuality and take necessary steps to abolish discriminatory practices based on sexual orientation and gender identity

I thank you.