**Universal Periodic Review of UAE**

**Statement of the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova**

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Moldovan delegation warmly welcomes the delegation of UAE to the UPR Working Group and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

The Republic of Moldova appreciates the UAE open and transparent approach towards human rights policies. We welcome the establishment of the National Human Rights Institution and its Board of Trustees comprised of representatives of civil society, academia, technical and professional experts in human rights, as well as the specialized committees.

Furthermore, we welcome the efforts directed towards the promotion of women’s rights, gender equality and the elimination of discrimination against women, mainly the adoption of the National Strategy for the Empowerment and Advancement of Women alongside the strengthening of the legislation on protection against domestic violence, equal pay between women and men and labour relations.

In line with United Arab Emirates’ commitment to further advance human rights we recommend the following:

1. To consider acceding to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocols.
2. To undertake necessary legal and policy measures to prevent and eradicate child marriages while investigating and prosecuting facilitation or conduction of such cases.

Thank you.