**Universal Periodic Review, 43. session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Burundi, 4 May 2023**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

Denmark welcomes the delegation of Burundi and thanks it for the presentation.

While we commend Burundi for ratifying OPCAT in 2013, we regret that an effective National Preventive Mechanism against torture has still not been established. We are furthermore concerned by Burundi’s lack of cooperation regarding the individual complaints procedure of the Committee Against Torture.

* *Denmark* ***recommends*** *Burundi to implement without delay an effective National Preventive Mechanism against torture, as set out in the draft amendment to the law on the Human Rights Commission of 2021.*

We are furthermore concerned about reports of selective impunity in the prosecution of alleged perpetrators of serious violations, exacerbated by the lack of judicial independence, leading to a lack of accountability and effective remedy in Burundi.

* *Denmark* ***recommends*** *Burundi to investigate and prosecute individuals allegedly responsible for crimes under international law and other grave human rights violations and abuses in fair trials.*

Thank you.