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**UPR of Mali**

**Statement by the Republic of Poland**

*Tuesday, 2 May 2023, 14:30-18:00*

*Ms./Mr. President,*

Poland welcomes activities undertaken by Mali in order to implement recommendations accepted during the previous UPR cycle.

Poland recommends Mali:

1. to strengthen cooperation with the UN bodies, in particular by granting the representatives of MINUSMA unhindered access to all places where human rights violations and abuses allegedly had occurred;
2. to intensify efforts to effectively prohibit the use of children in armed conflicts;
3. to abolish the death penalty and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR;
4. to ensure that fundamental freedoms, especially freedom of expression are respected and investigate the cases of killings of journalists in Mali.

While commending adoption of a new legislation aimed at protecting persons with disabilities, Poland would like to echo concerns expressed by the CESCR about the lack of access for children with disabilities to inclusive education.

We also welcome the steps taken to effectively prevent torture and inhuman treatment, such as establishment of a torture prevention mechanism through the National Human Rights Commission as well as providing continuous training to law enforcement officers.

*Thank you.*