**UPR 29**

**MALI**

**STATEMENT BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

The Czech Republic warmly welcomes the delegation of Mali. We appreciate the informative presentation which gives an overview about the human rights situation in the country.We also thank the delegation of Mali for the comments on some of our advance questions.

While acknowledging some progress Mali achieved in some of the human rights areas, we encourage it to continue its efforts and we offer the following **recommendations**

Firstly, to issue and implement a standing invitation to the thematic human rights special procedures of the Human Rights Council.

Secondly, to implement a national strategy for increased participation and representation of women in general elections.

Thirdly, to take actions to investigate impartially, timely and thoroughly, allegations of torture and extrajudicial executions by military forces and ensure accountability of perpetrators as well as rehabilitation and reparations to victims.

Fourthly, to adopt before the next UPR cycle legislative ban on FGM and domestic violence and conduct awareness-raising campaigns in order to eliminate these forms of violence in practice.

And finally, to take steps to protect children from recruitment as child soldiers and ensure long term rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for those demobilized.

We wish the delegation of Mali a succesful UPR.

Thank you.