**Statement of Hungary on France**

**29th Session of the UPR Working Group, 15 January 2018**

**Mr. President,**

Hungary warmly welcomes the delegation of France and thanks for the detailed national report and update. We appreciate that France attaches great importance to the promotion of welfare of all as well as to the protection of everyone’s basic rights. Hungary commends France for the Strategy Europe 2020, which plans to lower national poverty thresholds by 25 per cent by 2020.

Hungary is pleased that there has been an increase in the accessibility to employment and education, but remains worrisome that persons living with disabilities still face discrimination in terms of availability of certain services.

**Therefore, Hungary recommends that the Government**

* take measures to promote a real culture of equality and tolerance by evaluating the Act on public school reform, and if needed, strengthening its educational reform with a view to reducing the effects of the social background of children on their achievement in school, and ensure the right to education to all children without discrimination.
* consider expanding the scope of the national plan of action against human trafficking covering all forms of trafficking and exploitation.

We are concerned of the alarming level of the terrorist threats in the country. Hungary encourages the Government to further intensify efforts to fight against terrorism.

We appreciate that in 2015 combating racism and anti-Semitism was declared a “national priority concern”. The Government’s relentless efforts to prevent all forms of discrimination, including sexism, racism and homophobia are commendable. Nonetheless, discrimination on the grounds of sex, gender identity, disability, national, social and economic origin or other grounds strongly persists. Thus, we urge the Government to redouble its efforts and tackle racist and anti-Semitic violence motivated by hatred and intolerance more effectively and ensure the prosecution of those responsible for such acts.

**Thank you, Mr. President!**