**The 29th session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Burundi**

**18 January 2018**

**Statement by Latvia**

Thank you Mr President,

Latvia welcomes the delegation of Burundi to the UPR session and thanks it for the presentation of the national report.

Latvia appreciates that the Government of Burundi had extended a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council in June 2013. However, we note with regret that a number of requests by the special procedures mandate holders to visit Burundi have not been accepted.

Latvia would like to make following recommendations to the Government of Burundi:

1. to respond positively to the pending visit requests by the special procedures mandate holders;
2. to readhere to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and to align national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute;
3. to repeal all discriminatory provisions and to align the legislation with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
4. to take measures to prevent acts of harassment and intimidation against the human rights defenders and journalists.

Latvia wishes to the Government of Burundi success in the review.

I thank you.