**Universal Periodic Review, 29th session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of France, 15th January 2018**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr President,

Denmark warmly welcomes the delegation of France and thanks it for its presentation today.

Denmark praises France’s progress on the issue of LGBT rights and commends the elaboration of the national plan to fight discrimination against LGBT people adopted in December 2016.

However, Denmark notes the high level of overpopulation in French prisons, with consequences for the living conditions and rights of detainees.

*Denmark therefore recommends the Government of France to improve the living conditions of detainees by implementing the recommendations of the Inspector General of Places of Deprivation of Liberty, including making greater use of alternatives to imprisonment in line with the Tokyo and Bangkok Rules.*

On another topic, Denmark notes with appreciation that the principle of the best interests of the child has been raised at the constitutional level and that the Court of Cassation and the Council of State have adopted a common position in this regard.

*Denmark recommends the Government of France to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment in all settings in order to further strengthen the protection of children.*

I thank you.