**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**Geneva, 17 January 2018**

**UPR 3 Cycle, Review of the Bahamas**

**Statement by Montenegro**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Bahamas and thanks for the presentation of its national report.

We welcome improved level of technical cooperation with the OHCHR, in particular with regards to development of national reporting and follow-up mechanism. We encourage the Government to further improve its efforts in order to harmonize national legislation with accepted treaties and timely report on their implementation.

We commend the Government’s commitment to implement the SDGs, bearing in mind vulnerability of the country due to the impacts of climate changes and natural disasters.

Despite strengthening strategic and legislative framework for improving women’s rights, we noted the existence of gender-based discriminatory provisions in nationality laws. Therefore, we call on the Government to strengthen women’s rights and gender equality in citizenship matters.

We appreciate the fact that no execution has taken place in the Bahamas since 2000 and that no new death sentences have been recorded since 2010.

Montenegro makes following recommendations:

1. To ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;

2. To improve the level of regular reporting to relevant bodies on the implementation of already accepted core human rights treaties.

Thank you!