**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

29th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of the United Arab Emirates***

22 January 2018

Mr. President,

Bulgaria welcomes the distinguished Delegation of the United Arab Emirates and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria notes with appreciation that in submitting their third periodic report the United Arab Emirates have undertaken a number of voluntary pledges, in particular on the establishment of independent national human rights commission on the basis of Paris Principles.

We praise the progress made by the United Arab Emirates in the empowerment of women and in supporting children with disabilities. Bulgaria recognizes the achievements of the United Arab Emirates in combatting trafficking in human beings.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations to the United Arab Emirates:

• To continue to strengthen their efforts towards the equality between men and women and the empowerment and advancement of women.

• To consider further actions to promote an inclusive education for children with disabilities into the regular educational establishments.

We wish the Delegation of the United Arab Emirates a successful review!

Thank you, Mr. President!