**Universal Periodic Review of FRANCE**

**15 January 2018
Intervention by the delegation of Estonia**

Estonia warmly welcomes the French delegation to its 3rd UPR, and thanks Ambassador Croquette for the presentation of their report.

Estonia welcomes the continuous efforts by France to curb violence against women and to promote gender equality, including through the implementation of the 2014 Act on equality between women and men, and the fifth inter-ministerial plan to prevent and combat violence against women [2017-2019] that includes the important objective of combating sexism as a tool to eliminate violence against women.

We further emphasise France’s steps in fighting violence against children with its first inter-ministerial plan from 2017 that seeks to raise public awareness and propose practical solutions to stifle all forms of violence in the family. At the same time, we regret that an amendment to prohibit all forms of violence against children has not become law. Thus, Estonia would like **to recommend** the Government of France to explicitly prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including in the home.

Estonia commends France for several developments in the strengthening of the protection and promotion of human rights during the past period, including adoption of the plan against anti-LGBT hatred and discrimination [2017-2020] to further combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

We wish to the delegation of France a very successful review meeting.

Thank you.