**Universal Periodic Review, 30th session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Bangladesh, 14 May 2018**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

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

Preventing child marriage is of paramount importance when seeking to protect the rights of the child. We are therefore concerned that the special provision, Clause 22 of the 2017 Child Marriage Restraint Act, enables marriage of children below the legal age under “special circumstances” without having established clear rules of procedures to sufficiently ensure misuse of the law.

*Denmark recommends the Government to formulate Rules of Procedures for the use of clause 22 of the 2017 Child Marriage Restraint Act to clarify existing gaps in order to prevent misuse of the provision allowing marriage for children below the legal age in “special circumstances”.*

Denmark appreciates the 2016 amendment of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Land Dispute Resolution Commission in, but regrets that the work of the commission is seriously impeded by its lack of human resources, office equipment and the absence of Rules to supplement the provisions of the Act.

*Denmark recommends the Government to launch a road map with a clear time line for the speedy, proper and full implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts* *Accord.*

*Finally, Denmark recommends the Government to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment (OPCAT).*

I thank you.