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**30th Session of the UPR working group**

**Recommendations by Finland to Germany**

**8 May 2018**

Mr. President,

Finland wishes to thank Germany for its presentation today and for an inclusive and transparent preparation of its national report, including the participation of civil society.

Finland wishes to make the following two recommendations:

1. **Firstly, Finland recommends that Germany ratifies the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, including accepting the competence of the Committee as regards the inquiry procedure.**
2. **Secondly, Finland recommends that Germany develops a comprehensive national action plan to promote gender equality, including to address intersecting forms of discrimination, ensuring its effective monitoring through concrete targets and indicators and identification of pertinent accountability mechanisms where remaining gaps for equality prevail;**

Finland wishes to take this opportunity to commend Germany for the measures taken to address substantive equality, including ending violence against women. We welcome the recent entry into force of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) in Germany.

Thank you.