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| UN Human Rights Council**UPR 30th session**  |

**Statement by Sweden in the interactive dialogue on Colombia**

*Delivered by H.E. Ms. Veronika Bard*

*Geneva, 10 May 2018 (speaking time 1:20, speaker no. 91)*

Mr. President,

Sweden wishes to warmly welcome the delegation of Colombia and extends its thanks for the comprehensive report and presentation.

Sweden would like to recommend the Government of Colombia to:

1. **Fight impunity and prosecute those responsible for violence, including sexual and gender-based violence, against women and girls.**
2. **Fully implement the existing law pertaining to women’s participation in elections.**
3. **Ensure that human rights defenders are able to carry out their work free from intimidation, threats, harassment and attacks and to guarantee their safety, especially those working in rural conflict-prone areas.**

Sweden wishes the Government of Colombia all success in the current review and in implementing the recommendations.

I thank you Mr. President