**GEORGIA**

**THE 30th session of the UPR Working group**

**UPR of the RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**14 May, 2018**

Mr. President,

We are deeply concerned over the grave and systematic human rights violations in the Russian Federation and territories under its effective control – Abkhazia, Georgia and Tskhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia.

We recommend to Russia:

* To cease violations of human rights of the population living in Georgian regions under Russia’s effective control;
* To provide full and unconditional access to the OHCHR and other relevant human rights monitoring mechanisms to Georgia’s Abkhazia and Tskhinvali regions
* To cease discrimination on the grounds of ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity;
* To cease restricting civil society and NGOs
* To implement recommendations related to the freedom of press and information accepted during the last UPR cycle.

Here I would like to reiterate my deep concern over serious deviation of the rules of the UPR during the previous cycle, when the recommendations of Georgia to Russia where omitted from the recommendations section of the Report.

We hope that our current recommendations will be fully and accurately reflected in the report.