**UPR31**

**MALAYSIA**

*8 November 2018*

**Statement by the Czech Republic**

The Czech Republic thanks the delegation of Malaysia for its presentation. We commend the Government of Malaysia for their openness and positive attitude to the human rights agenda. In particular, we congratulate the Government on its initiative to end the practice of death penalty and look forward to its complete abolition at the earliest occasion.

***[****We also welcome the legislative measures aiming at stronger legal protection of women from gender-based violence and discrimination and encourage the Government to further foster safe environment for persons in vulnerable situations and minorities.****]***

At the same time, we note that the recommendations provided by the Czech Republic in the previous UPR cycle are yet to be fully implemented. In this respect, **we recommend that the Government of Malaysia**:

Firstly, sets a clear timeframe for the ratification without reservation of the ICCPR, the ICESCR, the CAT and all other core international human rights treaties including their Optional Protocols, and the Rome Statute.

Secondly, builds upon its efforts to ensure the full enjoyment of the freedom of opinion and expression by repealing the Sedition Act (1948) and bringing in line with international human rights law the Printing Presses and Publication Act (1948), Official Secrets Act (1972) and the Anti Fake News Act (2018).

Thirdly, revises the Peaceful Assembly Act (2012) in order to eliminate discrimination and hindrance in the exercise of the freedom of association and peaceful assembly.

Fourthly, strengthens its national legislation with respect to the prevention of torture and ill-treatment and the elimination of practice of whipping and caning.

Thank you.