**Universal Periodic Review, 31st session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Malaysia, 8 November 2018**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

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

Female genital mutilation is a severe violation of women and girls’ full enjoyment of human rights. *Denmark recommends the Government to prohibit all forms of female genital mutilation, as defined by WHO, in its criminal code, ensuring that the prohibition cannot be overruled by any fatwas or other rulings issued by religious authorities.*

The Convention against Torture commits and guides States towards effective prohibition, punishment and prevention of torture.

*Denmark recommends the Government to abolish physical punishment, including caning or judicial beatings, in the legal system, both civil and Sharia.*

*Denmark recommends the Government to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.*

Thank you.