**Universal Periodic Review 30th session / 5-16 November 2018**

*Statement by the Republic of Cyprus*

*Central African Republic*

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes the delegation of the Central African Republic and expresses appreciation for its presentation, national report and engagement with the UPR process.

Cyprus wishes to seize this opportunity to commend the measures that the Government of Central African Republic has taken to implement its international human rights obligations. In this regard, we welcome the recent ratification of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

Cyprus has two recommendations for the authorities of CAR:

1. to abolish the death penalty and to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, and
2. to strengthen its measures to combat the phenomenon of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

I thank you.