**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**31st Session, 5-16 November 2018**

***Statement by the Republic of Cyprus on***

***The Republic of Malta***

**14 November 2018, 14.30-18.00**

Mr. President,

Cyprus warmly welcomes Malta’s participation in the 3rd UPR cycle and thanks its authorities for its comprehensive national report as well as today’s presentation.

Cyprus appreciates Malta’s strong commitment to the universal promotion and protection of human rights shown by the overall improvement of the human rights situation in the country. We particularly commend Malta’s efforts in promoting gender equality and measures to enhance women’s participation in the labour market and public life. Furthermore, we welcome the ratification of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide.

Cyprus has two recommendations for Malta’s consideration:

1. Continue and intensify efforts to eliminate violence against women and children, by duly investigating cases of violence against them and establishing a rehabilitation system for victims.
2. Continue efforts to promote inclusive education for children with disabilities.

I thank you.