**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

31st session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Jordan***

8 November 2018

Mr. President,

Bulgaria welcomes the high level Delegation of Jordan and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

We appreciate that after the second cycle of UPR Jordan has taken major steps to strengthen the national human rights framework through the enactment of amendments to the Law on the National Centre for Human Rights in 2017 and through the adoption of 2016-2025 Comprehensive National Plan for Human Rights.

Bulgaria notes that in the period 2011-2017 Jordan has provided a refuge to over 655 000 persons from Syria. We would like to highlight that despite the fact that the country has not received sufficient international financial assistance, the Jordanian authorities have exerted tremendous efforts to address the consequences of the refugee crises on its public services infrastructure, particularly in the areas of employment, education and health.

Bulgaria commends Jordan for its achievements in combatting trafficking in human beings and contribution to the international cooperation in this respect.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations to Jordan:

1. To continue implementation of initiatives to encourage the empowerment of women and to facilitate a higher proportion of women in managerial positions in the public institutions and the private business;
2. To continue strengthening its efforts in the promotion and protection of the rights of elderly persons and persons with disabilities.

We wish the Delegation of Jordan a successful outcome of the review!

Thank you, Mr. President!