**UPR32**

**ERITREA**

*28 January 2019*

**STATEMENT BY THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

The Czech Republic welcomes the delegation of Eritrea.

The Czech Republic appreciates the improvement made in Eritrea e.g. in the implementation of the right to education or right to health and in the prohibition of FGM and early marriages.

However, we regret that in the previous UPR cycle Eritrea accepted just one of five recommendations made by the Czech Republic.

The Czech Republic recommends the Government of Eritrea to:

* Invite the Special Rapporteur against Torture for the country visit, ratify the Optional Protocol to Convention against Torture and establish an independent National Preventive Mechanism;
* Restore the parliamentary democracy and organize periodic and genuine multiparty elections, in accordance with international democratic standards and invite the international organisations to observe the elections;
* Protect freedom of expression, lift the media censorship, release imprisoned journalists and protect journalists and media workers from unlawful arbitrary detention.