**The 32nd session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of Eritrea**

**28 January 2019**

**Statement by Latvia**

Thank you Mr President,

Latvia welcomes the delegation of Eritrea to the UPR Working Group and thanks it for presenting national report.

My delegation notes measures taken by the Government of Eritrea as highlighted in the report and encourages further efforts in fulfilling human rights obligations and commitments.

Latvia regrets that the Government of Eritrea has refused to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea and has not provided access to conduct in-country visits, as well as denied country visit requests to other special procedure mandate holders. In this regard, Latvia would like to recommend to Eritrea:

* cooperate with the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea, including by granting access.

Latvia also reiterates following recommendations from the previous cycle:

* improve cooperation with special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council by responding positively to the pending visit requests; and eventually consider the extension of a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council;
* ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and fully align its legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute, including incorporating the Rome Statute definition of crimes and general principles, as well as adopting provisions enabling cooperation with the Court.

Latvia wishes to the delegation of Eritrea success in the review.

I thank you.