**UPR 32nd Session**

**(Geneva, 21 January-1 February 2019)**

**Review of Eritrea**

**Statement by Greece**

Thank you Mr President

Greece would like to welcome the delegation of Eritrea to the 32nd session of the UPR Working Group. We note some positive steps since the last UPR cycle, such as education-related policies, measures against children discrimination and the National Gender Action Plan 2015-2019. We welcome the Peace and Friendship Agreement between Eritrea and Ethiopia, hoping that it can pave the way, inter alia, for the enhancement of HRs protection.

**However, given that important challenges still remain, Greece would like to recommend that Eritrea:**

1. Allow full, free and unimpeded access of UN Human Rights Mandate Holders
2. Take measures to ensure protection of land and property rights, including those of the foreign communities, as well as those of diplomatic and consular missions, pursuant to international standards
3. Cease persistent and endemic attacks, as well as use of torture as an integral part of the systematic repression against civilian population
4. Ensure that journalists, HR defenders and independent civil society organizations operate in a free and safe environment

We would like to seize this opportunity to wish to the Delegation of Eritrea success in implementing the recommendations they will receive today.

Thank you