**32nd session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Cyprus**

**Statement by H.E. Mr. Olaph J. Terribile**

**Permanent Representative**

Thank you, Mr President.

Malta warmly welcomes the delegation of Cyprus headed by Ms Leda Koursoumba, Law Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus,and thanks her for the presentation of the country’s national report. Malta commends the steps the Government of Cyprus has taken over the past 4 years, in particular those aimed at the advancement of the rights of LGBTI persons in the country.

In this context, Malta would like to recommend to the Government of Cyprus the following:

1. Step up efforts to enact the new legislation on transgender persons;
2. Provide further assistance to victims of discrimination or violence based on gender identity and sexual orientation;
3. Increase awareness-raising programmes and campaigns aimed at deterring public incitement of acts against persons on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

We wish the delegation of Cyprus a successful review.

I thank you.