**32th SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REVIEW OF URUGUAY**

**23 January 2019**

**Statement of Croatia**

Mr. President,

Croatia would like to extend a warm welcome to the delegation of Uruguay and thank them for the presentation of their report.

We commend the Government of Uruguay for its cooperation with international mechanisms, including with the IOM and UNHCR, and its efforts to integrate refugees from Latin American countries.

We welcome the legislative progress in the area of criminal procedure, in particular the adoption of the new Criminal Procedure Code introduced in 2017, which could be considered as a step toward the resolution of issues affecting detention centers and prisons in the country.

However, adults deprived of liberty still face widespread use of extended pretrial detention, poor and potentially life-threatening conditions in some prisons and detention centers, including homicides and suicides, cruel or degrading treatment and violence against women.

Therefore, allow us to address Uruguay with two recommendations:

1. **Continue efforts to further improve the penitentiary system and prison conditions, especially to ensure human rights of women prisoners are protected.**
2. **Strengthen the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture in accordance with the UN Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture recommendations.**

Croatia would like to compliment the Government of Uruguay for the progress achieved to date and wish them a successful review session.

Thank you.