**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

32nd session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Yemen***

23 January 2019

Thank you, Mr. President,

Bulgaria welcomes the Delegation of Yemen and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria remains deeply concerned about the continuing deterioration of the human rights and humanitarian situation in Yemen. The protracted conflict has taken a terrible toll on the civilian population, creating one of the deepest humanitarian crises globally.

Therefore, Bulgaria welcomes the positive outcome of the consultations between the representatives of the Yemeni parties, held under the auspices of the United Nations, in Sweden one month ago. The implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions 2451 (2018) and 2452 (2019) is crucial for keeping the momentum of the Stockholm agreements and we call on all the parties to continue to engage constructively, in good faith and without preconditions in the UN led efforts for achieving a peaceful and lasting solution to the conflict in Yemen.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations to all stakeholders in Yemen:

1. Take further steps to ensure compliance with international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including measures to protect civilians, particularly children, women, elderly persons, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups.
2. Step up efforts, in cooperation with international agencies, to remove restrictions and establish unhindered access of humanitarian supplies, especially for children – including internally displaced and refugee children.

We wish the Delegation of Yemen a successful review!

Thank you, Mr. President!