**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

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

***Review of Cyprus***

29 January 2019

Thank you, Mr. President,

Bulgaria is pleased to welcome the high level Delegation of Cyprus and to thank for the comprehensive presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria would like to highlight the significant legislative, institutional and policy developments in Cyprus in the field of promotion and protection of human rights since the second cycle of UPR.

We commends that Cyprus actively promotes measures against the destruction and trafficking of cultural heritage worldwide and in Europe. This is evident from the unanimous adoption upon Cyprus sponsorship of the Resolution “Cultural Rights and the Protection of Cultural Heritage” at the Human Rights Council in 2016 and 2018 and the adoption of the Council of Europe Convention on Offences Relating to Cultural Property (“the Nicosia Convention”).

Bulgaria appreciates the priority attached by the Cyprus Government to the respect of the rights of children and the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations to Cyprus:

1. Further strengthen efforts to increase representation of women in decision-making positions in the political, economic and cultural life.
2. Continue the fight against trafficking in human beings and the engagement in the international cooperation in this respect.

We wish the Delegation of Cyprus a successful outcome of the review!

Thank you, Mr. President!