**Statement of Hungary on Cyprus**

**32nd Session of the UPR Working Group, 29 January 2019**

**Mr. President,**

Hungary warmly welcomes the delegation of Cyprus and thanks for the presentation of its national report.

We commend that various actions and measures have been undertaken by Cyprus since its last UPR to protect vulnerable groups, including women and children. Hungary takes note with satisfaction that the Ministry of Education and Culture, through its 2018-2020 Strategic Plan aims to increase access to quality education and provide opportunities for all students to succeed in their learning. However, we remain concerned about the low school attendance and high drop-out rates among Roma children.

Hungary also welcomes the Bill introducing a criminal justice system specially designed for the needs of children in conflict with the law.

Concerning women, we commend the adoption of the new National Action Plan for Gender Equality (2018-2021), which takes into account the various obstacles and challenges faced by women.

Hungary wishes to make the following specific recommendations to Cyprus:

* Take steps to ensure the compulsory school attendance of all Roma children and enhance their equality in the education system;
* Take measures to ensure that juvenile offenders are tried before a specialized court for juveniles and are separated from adults in detention facilities;
* Increase the level of participation of women in the labour market.

We wish every success to Cyprus in this UPR cycle.

**Thank you, Mr. President!**