

Statement by H.E. Archbishop Ivan Jurkovič, Permanent Observer of the Holy See

to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva

at Human Rights Council – 33rd Session of the Universal Periodical Review

**Nicaragua**

Geneva, 15 May 2019

Mr. President,

The Holy See welcomes the Delegation of Nicaragua at the presentation of its National Report for the third cycle of the Universal Periodic Review.

My Delegation encourages the parties involved to continue their efforts to find as rapidly as possible a peaceful and negotiated solution to the current situation. The Holy See is committed, together with the local Catholic Church, to be at the service of unity and peace for the entire people of Nicaragua.

My Delegation wishes to present the following recommendations:

* To keep improving access to, and the quality of, education for children, especially for those living in rural areas;
* To ensure that the police, the army and the judicial system remain under the rule of law, curbing the activity of para military forces, and ensuring that no acts of ill-treatment are tolerated in detention facilities;
* To safeguard the right to expression and to assembly for all members of society, and freedom of the press;
* To guarantee health assistance to all, with no discrimination for political reasons, and with respect to the freedom and the professionalism of medical personnel.

Thank you, Mr. President.