

*Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève*

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| **WG UPR – Bhutan**  ***Belgian intervention***  8th May 2019 |

Mr. President,

Belgium welcomes the delegation of Bhutan and wishes it every success in the exercise of its third Universal Periodic Review. Belgium acknowledges the progress made since Bhutan’s previous UPR, but is convinced that further progress can be achieved to increase the protection of human rights in line with the core international human rights treaties.

Belgium would like to recommend to:

**R1.** Decriminalize same-sex sexual conduct between consenting adults.

**R2.** Take all necessary measures to end the practice of child marriage and define child marriage as an offence in the Criminal Code.

**R3.** Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

Thank you, Mr. President.