**The 33rd session of the UPR Working Group**

**Review of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea**

**9 May 2019**

**Statement by Latvia**

Thank you Mr President,

Latvia welcomes the delegation of the Democratic People’sRepublic of Korea to the UPR Working Group and thanks it for presenting national report.

We note measures taken by the Government in the field of promotion and protection of human rights since the previous review and encourage further efforts in fulfilling human rights obligations and commitments.

Latvia notes the received visit from the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities since the last cycle. However, we note with regret the lack of cooperation with other special procedures mandate holders.

In this regard Latvia would like to recommend:

* cooperate with the special procedures of the Human Rights Council by responding positively to the pending visit requests by the special procedures mandate holders; and
* consider the extension of a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council.

Latvia would also like to reiterate following recommendations from the previous cycle:

* ratify core international human rights conventions, in particular Convention on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment and second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty;
* ratify Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and to fully align national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute.

Latvia wishes to the delegation of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea success in the review.

I thank you.