**Universal Periodic Review, 33rd session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Bhutan, 8 May 2019**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

Denmark welcomes the delegation of Bhutan and thanks it for its presentation today.

The Convention against Torture commits and guides States towards effective prohibition, punishment and prevention of torture and redress for victims. By ratifying, Bhutan would join the rapidly growing number of 166 States Parties in the unequivocal message: Torture can never be tolerated.

*Denmark recommends the Government to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.*

The Optional Protocol to Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women serves as an important tool in the implementation and reinforcement of the convention and the rights set out herein.

*Denmark therefore recommends the Government to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.*

Denmark wishes Bhutan a successful review.

I thank you.