**Universal Periodic Review, 33rd session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of DR Congo, May 7 2019**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

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

Denmark welcomes initiatives by the DRC to combat sexual violence, including the adoption by the Armed Forces and the Congolese National Police of an action plan to combat sexual violence.

Protecting the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls is important to ensure their physical and mental well-being. Access to quality health services that are affordable,accessible and available is essential to eliminate discrimination against women and girls.

*Denmark recommends legalising the termination of pregnancies in cases of rape, incest and severe foetal impairment.*

Protecting a child’s human dignity and the right of the child to physical integrity is paramount to ensure that a child reaches its fullest potential.

*Denmark recommends prohibiting corporal punishment of children in all settings, including in the home.*

Denmark wishes the DRC a successful review.

Thank you.