**UPR 33rd Session**

**(Geneva, 6-17 May 2019)**

**Review of Costa Rica**

**Statement by Greece**

Thank you Mr President,

Greece welcomes the delegation of Costa Rica to the UPR and commends the country for its efforts to promote gender equality, especially in the political sphere, including through the forming of the first gender-balanced cabinet in their history in 2018. We also welcome the ratification in 2014 of the Optional Protocol to the ICESCR, as well as the OP-CRC (Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child) on a communications procedure.

**Greece would like to recommend that Costa Rica:**

1. Amend their Criminal Law to increase the penalties for racial discrimination as well as consider it as an aggravating circumstance, especially against indigenous peoples and persons of African descent;
2. Step up efforts to reduce overcrowding and poor conditions in places of detention;

3. Systematically and actively investigate and prosecute those responsible for human trafficking and ensure their appropriate punishment;

[*We would like to seize this opportunity to wish to the Delegation of Costa Rica all success in implementing the recommendations they will receive today*].

Thank you