**GEORGIA**

**THE 33rd session of the UPR Working group**

**UPR of Portugal**

Geneva, 8 May 2019

Georgia warmly welcomes the Delegation of Portugal and thanks the Head of Delegation for the presentation of the national report.

Georgia commends Portugal’s achievements in adopting comprehensive human rights instruments in order to implement UPR recommendations of the second cycle. Georgia also welcomes the submission of an *interim* report and encourages the Government of Portugal to continue this practice.

We note with appreciation a range of measures that have been taken to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, including the adoption of national action plans and setting up of the Observatory on Trafficking in Human Beings under the Ministry of Interior. However, despite the positive steps, the trafficking in women and children for the purposes of sexual and labor exploitation still remains a challenge.

Therefore, Georgia would like to **recommend** to the Government of Portugal:

* To strengthen actions to combat human trafficking, with emphasis on identification and protection of victims of trafficking, especially in the asylum procedure;
* To take further steps to accelerate the finalization and adoption of the new draft law on anti-discrimination, simplifying complaint procedures and facilitating access to legal aid for victims of racial discrimination.

We wish the Delegation of Portugal a successful UPR.