**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

 33rd session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Qatar***

15 May 2019

Mr. President,

Bulgaria welcomes the distinguished Delegation of the State of Qatar and thanks for the presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria notes with particular satisfaction the fact that the Qatari authorities have taken appropriate measures to give effect to the recommendations that were accepted during the second UPR cycle. Within this context we appreciate the accession of Qatar to a number of international human rights instruments such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, etc.

We note the progress that Qatar is making towards the empowerment of women, through the implementation of the Second National Development Strategy 2018-2022, part of the Qatar National Vision 2030.

Bulgaria would like to highlight the official development assistance amounting to around US$ 2 billion that the State of Qatar provides annually on a voluntary basis to many developing countries around the globe, as a part of the efforts to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations to Qatar:

1. Conduct awareness-raising measures to effectively promote equality between women and men, and overcome stereotypes and prejudices concerning their roles and responsibilities in the family and society;

1. Take further actions to promote an inclusive education for children with disabilities;
2. Take further actions for enactment of the legislation related to the migrant workers and most notably the domestic workers.

We wish the Delegation of the State of Qatar a successful review!

Thank you, Mr. President!