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REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES

33rd SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW ––

KINGDOM OF BHUTAN

8th May 2019

*Statement delivered by Ms Gayethri M Pillay, Chargé D’affaires/Counsellor*

Thank you Mr Vice-President.

Seychelles welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Kingdom of Bhutan and thanks them for their interventions today.

Seychelles positively notes the progress made by Bhutan since its last Universal Periodic Review (UPR), including the enhancement of the legislative framework safeguarding human rights; the reduction in poverty rates; as well as becoming a party to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Seychelles also commends Bhutan’s constructive engagement with the UN’s human rights mechanisms, including the recent visit of the Working Group on Arbitrary Detention.

Seychelles offers the following **recommendations**:

* First, to develop a National Action Plan on Trafficking in Person, through wide consultation with governmental and non-governmental stakeholders;
* Second, to establish a National Human Rights Institution with a wide-ranging mandate and in line with the Paris Principles; and
* Third, to consider issuing a standing invitation to the Special Procedures Mechanism.

Seychelles wishes the delegation of Bhutan a fruitful review.

Thank you, Mr Vice-President.