**Universal Periodic Review, 34th session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of El Salvador, 4th November 2019**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

Denmark welcomes the delegation of El Salvador and thanks it for its presentation today.

We commend El Salvador for its progress on women’s rights by eliminating all exceptions to the prohibition of child marriage. However, the criminalization of abortion remains a concern. El Salvador is one of very few countries in the world that still has an absolute ban on abortion.

*Denmark recommends the Government to remove health professionals’ and public officials’ obligation to report women to the police based on a suspicion of abortion and to suspend any criminal investigations into suspected abortions based on these reports.*

We praise El Salvador for withdrawing its reservation to CAT; however, prison conditions remain troublesome, with reports of prisoners facing cruel and inhumane treatment in detention centres.

*Denmark recommends the Government to improve its prison conditions by ceasing the extraordinary security measures in detention facilities.*

*Finally, Denmark recommends the Government to ratify the OPCAT.*

Denmark wishes El Salvador a successful review.

I thank you.