**Universal Periodic Review, 34rd session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Republic of Fiji, 6 November 2019**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

Denmark welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Fiji and thanks it for the presentation of their report.

Denmark commends Fiji for ratifying the UN Convention against Torture in 2016 and for its commitment to eliminating torture worldwide. The Optional Protocol to the Convention establishes a set of practical tools on torture prevention.

*Denmark therefore recommends the Government to ratify OP-CAT.*

Denmark further commends the Government’s political will to address violence against women in Fiji. However, under-reporting remains a concern.

*Denmark recommends the Government to ensure access to formal justice for women and girls from low-income households.*

*Finally, Denmark recommends the Government to amend the Media Industry Development Act, the Public Order Act Amendment decree, and the sedition provisions of the Crimes Act, which restrict freedoms of expression, press and assembly.*

Denmark wishes Fiji a successful review.

I thank you.