**Universal Periodic Review, 34rd session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of The Gambia, 5 November 2019**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

Denmark thanks the delegation of The Gambia for their presentation of the report. We congratulate and commend the Gambian Government for the establishment of the Truth, Reconciliation and Reparation Commission of The Gambia.

Denmark further commends The Gambia for ratifying the UN Convention against Torture. The Optional Protocol to the Convention establishes a set of practical tools on torture prevention.

*Denmark recommends the Government to ratify the OPCAT.*

Denmark welcomes the adoption of the amended Women’s Act of 2015 prohibiting female genital mutilation.

*Denmark recommends the Government to provide training to law enforcement and judiciary officers in order to facilitate the effective implementation of the amended Women’s Act.*

*Finally, Denmark recommends the Government to amend laws that restrict freedom of expression, including sections 51, 52, 59 and 181A of the Criminal Code.*

Denmark wishes The Gambia a successful review.

I thank you.