**Universal Periodic Review, 34th session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Iraq, 11 November 2019**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

Denmark welcomes the delegation from Iraq and thanks it for its presentation.

We commend Iraq for acceding a number of important human rights instruments since the last UPR. However, we remain concerned about the lack of freedom of the press.

*Denmark – once again – recommends the Government to revise the Protection of Journalists Law number 21 with a view to remove all restrictions on the freedom of the press and to ensure full protection of journalists and other media workers.*

We are also concerned about the continued use of the death penalty in Iraq.

*Denmark recommends the Government to reintroduce a moratorium on the use of the death penalty as a first step towards its abolition.*

It is important to ensure rule of law and due process in all trials.

*Denmark recommends the Government to ratify OPCAT.*

I thank you.