**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

34th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Egypt***

13 November 2019

Mr. President,

Bulgaria extends warm welcome to the high level Delegation of Egypt and thanks for the comprehensive presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria recognizes the achievements of the Government of Egypt in promoting socio economic advancement, implementing large scale desert reclamation projects, addressing rapid population growth, promoting women empowerment and reducing poverty in the country.

We acknowledge the legislative, policy and institutional efforts that have been undertaken in the field of human rights in Egypt in conformity with the accepted recommendations of the Second UPR cycle.

We would like to encourage Egypt to take appropriate measures to ensure that the actions of its authorities at all levels regarding the rights to freedom of expression online and offline, as well as freedom of association and peaceful assembly are in conformity with international norms and standards.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Enhance human rights education and training programmes, targeted at public service officials, especially security forces.
2. Take further steps to facilitate the access of young people to professional training and employment.

We wish the Delegation of Egypt a successful review!

Thank you, Mr. President!