**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

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

***Review of El Salvador***

4 November 2019

Thank you, Mr. President,

Bulgaria welcomes the Delegation of El Salvador and thanks for the presentation of its national report.

Bulgaria notes with appreciation the enactment of the Law on Equality, Equity and Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the establishment of specialized jurisdiction for crimes against women and specialized institutional support units for women in the police force. We commend El Salvador for the adoption of Decree No. 754 of 2017 which prohibits the marriage of persons under the age of 18 in any circumstances.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Fully implement the 2016 Law on Equality, Equity and Elimination of Discrimination against Women, allocate adequate resources to enable the effective operation of the specialized jurisdiction for crimes against women and specialized institutional support units for women in the police force,
2. Review the policies and programmes addressing violence and the criminal acts committed by *maras* with a view to adopting more effective measures to prevent the killings and disappearances of children and their recruitment by criminal groups,
3. Adopt a human-rights based approach to persons with disabilities.

We wish the Delegation of El Salvador a successful review!

Thank you, Mr. President!