**Statement by the State of Palestine at the Universal Periodic Review of Gambia, 5th of November 2019:**

Thank you, Mr. President

The State of Palestine welcomes the distinguished delegation of Gambia, and we thank them for the efforts made in the preparation of their national report. We welcome the steps taken by the Government of Gambia to promote and protect fundamental freedoms and human rights.

We commend the serious commitment and progress made by the Government of Gambia in signing and ratifying a range of international instruments and treaties, and in this regard, we recommend that the Government of Gambia continue to review and accede to international human rights treaties and conventions.

We also appreciate the efforts and actions taken by the Government of Gambia to improve the status of women in political, economic and social life, through constitutional and legislative measures, including the adoption of the National Policy for the Advancement of Gambian Women 2010-2020. In this regard, we recommend that the Government of Gambia continue its efforts in promoting women's rights and take measures to ensure equal representation in decision-making positions in the public and private sectors.

We wish Gambia a successful review.

I thank you.