

Statement by H.E. Archbishop Ivan Jurkovič, Permanent Observer of the Holy See

to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva

at Human Rights Council – 35th Session of the Universal Periodical Review

Guinea-Bissau

*Geneva, 24January 2020*

Mr. President,

The Holy See welcomes the Delegation of Guinea-Bissau during the third cycle of the Universal Periodic Review and would like to offer the following recommendations:

* To combat actively corruption and to improve mechanisms for opposing transnational crime in general and drug trafficking in particular:
* To build a healthcare funding system capable of reducing the financial access barrier to health and promote an efficient use of economic resources;
* To facilitate and guarantee access to justice, in all regions, through the establishment and operalization of tribunals and the reduction of court fees;
* To intensify government initiatives to address youth unemployment through professional training.

The Holy See welcomes the efforts made by the national authorities to improve social conditions, notwithstanding the previous political and institutional crisis.

 Finally, my Delegation expresses to the Delegation of Guinea-Bissau its best wishes for a successful UPR.

Thank you, Mr. President.