**Universal Periodic Review, 35rd session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Armenia, 23 January 2020**

**Intervention by Denmark**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mdm. President,

Denmark welcomes the delegation of Armenia and thanks it for its presentation today.

Denmark commends Armenia for the improvements made since the last UPR in fostering gender equality and combating violence against women. However, we note that protection against domestic violence remains a concern.

*Denmark recommends the Government to promote the protection of women against violence by ratifying the Istanbul Convention of the Council of Europe and ensure a prompt, thorough, and impartial investigation of all allegations of domestic violence.*

We also note with concern reports and allegations of torture and ill-treatment perpetrated by law enforcement officials.

*Denmark recommends the Government to ensure effective investigation and prosecution against persecutors of torture and ill-treatment in accordance with international legal standards.*

Denmark wishes Armenia a successful review.

I thank you.