**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other international organizations**

**Geneva, 22 January 2020**

**UPR 3 Cycle, Review of Lesotho**

**Statement by Montenegro**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Lesotho.

We recognize the efforts of the Government of Lesotho to improve human rights situation in the country. We also note positive movements in ratification of the core human rights treaties and encourage Lesotho to continue this path.

We note concerns expressed by several UN bodies over the worst forms of child labor, exploitation of children for herding, domestic work, sexual exploitation and child marriage. We would like to ask what steps will the Government take to support child protection from these occurrences?

Montenegro makes following recommendations to the Government of Lesotho:

1. To ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatement of Punishment.
2. To step up activites in providing adequte legal protection of women against all forms of discrimination, and provide them with equal opportunities and empowerment.

Thank you.