**Statement by Bulgaria**

United Nations Human Rights Council

35th session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

***Review of Sweden***

27 January 2020

Mme. President,

Bulgaria welcomes the distinguished Delegation of Sweden and thanks for the comprehensive presentation of the national report.

Bulgaria notes with appreciation that Sweden has made significant progress in enhancing its legislative, institutional and policy framework for protection of human rights in line with the accepted recommendations of the second cycle of UPR.

We would like to highlight the strong commitment of the Government of Sweden to equality between women and men which has found an expression in the establishment of the Swedish Gender Equality Agency on 1 January 2018 and the high rate of representation of women in political and public life.

Bulgaria commends Sweden for its consistent efforts to strengthen the status of the Sámi as an indigenous people and a national minority.

Bulgaria would like to make the following recommendations to Sweden:

1) Take further steps to ensure that vulnerable EU citizens are protected against hate crimes and granted rights to health care, primary education and social services.

2) Continue to pursue relevant legislative and policy measures and allocate adequate resources with a view to establishing opportunities for every child with disabilities to reach the highest possible level of education, depending of his or her individual capacities.

We wish the Delegation of Sweden a successful review!

Thank you, Mme. President!