**Statement of the Kingdom of Bahrain**

**The 35th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)**

**Sweden**

**Delivered by:**

**Mr. Husain Makhlooq**

**Counsellor**

**Geneva, 27th January 2020**

**Universal Periodic Review, 35th Session**

**Human Rights Council**

**UPR of Sweden, 27 January 2020**

**Intervention by the Kingdom of Bahrain**

*[Check against delivery]*

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of Bahrain welcomes the delegation of Sweden, and thanks them for their presentation.

We **welcome** Sweden’s commitment to the promotion of human rights. We **commend as well** its role in combatting discrimination against religious minorities.

In this regard, we offer the following **recommendations**:

1. *To take more effective measures to reduce discrimination against ethnic and religieous minorities an to expand the mandate of the Equality Ombudsman.*
2. *To improve* *the accessibility of effective remedies against any form of discrimination and to take the necessary measures to protect vulnerable groups from hate speech and other hate crimes.*

The Kingdom of Bahrain wishes Sweden a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President