**Permanent Mission of Montenegro to the United Nations and other International Organizations**

**Statement by Montenegro**

**3rd UPR cycle – Review of Andorra**

**Geneva, 5 November 2020**

Montenegro welcomes the distinguished delegation of Andorra.

We note with appreciation Andorra’s commitment and achievements in the promotion and protection of human rights in between the two UPR cycles. We also praise Andorra for issuing a standing invitation to the special procedures mandate holders of the HRC to visit the country.

Likewise, Montenegro welcomes the ratification of the Convention against Discrimination in Education by Andorra, as well as certain other international instruments that contribute to the greater effectiveness of its anti-discrimination and human rights policies. On this note, we also welcome the adoption of the legislation which provided for the same legal basis for same-sex civil partnerships as for marriages and legalizes adoption for same-sex civil partnerships.

We greatly value Andorra’s commitment to the child, youth and education as cross-cutting priorities. The Qualified Act on the rights of children and adolescents from last February calls for the promotion of the healthy, harmonious and positive growth of these groups, and we applaud the Government for this endeavor.

Against this backdrop, Andorra should, however, explicitly prohibit discrimination based on the grounds of national origin, colour or descent. To this end, Andorra should amend the Equal Treatment and Non-Discrimination Act to fully bring it in line with the corresponding international human right standards (International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination), as recommended by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

Montenegro also reiterates its call to Andorra to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treating or Punishment (OPCAT).

Montenegro makes the following recommendation to Andorra:

1. To amend legislation to legalize the termination of pregnancy, at least in cases of risk to the life of the pregnant woman, rape, incest and severe impairment of the fetus, and that it decriminalize abortion in all other cases.

1. To ensure that Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women is applied by public authorities across all sectors and at all levels.

I thank you.