**Intervention by the Republic of Cyprus**

**Monday, 9 November 2020, 09:00-12:30**

**Ms. Andrea Petranyi**

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**36th Session**

**Marshall Islands**

Madam President,

Cyprus welcomes the participation of the Delegation from the Marshall Islands at today’s UPR, as well as the presentation of its Report.

Cyprus appreciates the Marshall Islands’ commitment to the universal promotion and protection of human rights. We commend your efforts in promoting gender equality and measures to enhance women’s participation in the labour market and public life. Furthermore, we welcome the ratification of CAT, CERD, ICCPR, ICESCR.

Cyprus recommends:

1. As a State party to both the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, fully implement the relevant provisions that promoted access to and participation in cultural heritage and creative expressions;
2. Further to the 2019 Gender Equality Act, adopt a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women, in line with article 1 of CEDAW;
3. Prioritise implementation of the Domestic Violence Prevention Act;
4. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on a communications procedure.

Thank you.