Mr. President,

Montenegro fully aligns itself with the statement of European Union. I would like to point out some issues of significant importance for my country.

Montenegro attaches great importance to the UPR process, as an integral part of the process of reform, building and strengthening of the national system towards full European integration. We strongly believe that the mechanism enables that all human rights be treated globally in a fair and equal manner. In order to make this important HRC mechanism more efficient, in addition to making concrete and action-oriented recommendations, consistent with the principles and objective of the UPR, there is a need for avoiding duplication and overlap of recommendations, as well as for limiting its number made by states to not more than two recommendations per country.

Two and a half years after having started the second UPR cycle, implementation of recommendations is benefitting from an extreme attention from all the different actors engaged. All national stakeholders should be a part of monitoring and reporting mechanism, enabling the state to provide adequate follow-up on outstanding recommendations and further implementation.

Our experience points to the significant benefits that UPR mechanism provides for UN member states in the way of transparency of the reporting process, involvement of all segments of society, and especially in recommendations of partner countries as valid guidelines for improving human rights record.

We are of the view that mid-term reporting is becoming an important part of the UPR mechanism, providing further accountability. We are in the process of finalizing mid-term report on the implementation of 2nd cycle recommendations. The report, which will be published this July, is the result of the process of comprehensive consultations undertaken between the Government, the National Human Rights Institution, civil society and UN agencies.

In conclusion, we would like to reiterate our full support to the UPR and its principles applicable to all Member States without discrimination.

Thank you.