Mr President,

I am pleased to make this statement on behalf of 13 countries, all members of the core group for the resolution on human rights and the implementation of the 2030 agenda.

Technical cooperation and capacity-building can make a real difference in integrating human rights in national policies and frameworks. Together with international human rights mechanisms, technical cooperation and capacity-building also play an important role in ensuring that the SDGs are implemented in accordance with States’ human rights obligations.

Promotion and protection of human rights and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda are interrelated and mutually reinforcing. This remains an important point, as we are now three years into the journey towards 2030, and are approaching the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

It is in recognition of this that this Council with reference to resolution 37/24 decided to create a space for States, UN agencies and mechanisms, civil society and others to voluntarily share good practices and lessons learnt in the promotion and protection of human rights and the implementation of 2030 Agenda. Two one-day intersessional meetings will be held, the first one beginning of 2019. Implementation at national and regional levels as well as the opportunities through technical assistance and capacity-building will be important topics. The summary reports of the meetings will be made available to the High Level Political Forum in New York.

Thank you.