

Permanent Mission of Mongolia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva

39th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council

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Mr. President,

My country considers the Special Procedures of the Council as an important element in the universal system of promotion and protection of human rights. Mongolia had extended a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders in early 2004 and has been constructively engaging with the Special Procedures.

We view the Human Rights Council as a vital platform of constructive dialogue and cooperation towards protecting and promoting human rights. The commitment and engagement of member states are crucially important too in achieving these noble goals and sustaining the credibility of the Council.

Mongolia considers that effective NHRI serves as an important link between government and civil society in ensuring human rights and fundamental freedoms in the country. Therefore, the strengthening and maintaining independent NHRI has an important place in Mongolia's commitments in the HRC.

Mongolia adopted the Law on the National Human Rights Commission in December 2000 and the National Human Rights Commission was established in the following year. The NHRCM is granted "A" status by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and was admitted as a full member institution at the Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions in 2001.

Considering the recommendations of the UPR Working Group and other treaty bodies, the Government of Mongolia is committed to revise the law governing the National Human Rights Commission in its Action Program for 2016-2020 with a view to enable the Commission to carry out its mandate in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

A working group had been established in 2017 by the Decree of the Minister for Justice and Internal Affairs with the task to draft revised new law. The Working group has developed and adopted the concept of the new law. It has also completed a comprehensive study on the necessity and the impact of the revision. The Government is encouraging the

engagement of all stakeholders in a series of national consultations which are planned in the coming months.

Finally, I would like to note here that recognizing the positive and important role the human rights defenders play in protecting and promoting human rights, Mongolia is working towards creating a legal environment for human rights defenders.

Thank you for your attention.