

81st Session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child
Statement by H.E. Mr. Christopher Grima, Permanent Representative of
the Republic of Malta to the United Nations and other Organisations

15 May 2019

Mr Chairperson,

Distinguished Members of the Committee, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Malta is honoured to participate in this 81st session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

We wish to take this opportunity to reiterate the importance that Malta attaches to the protection and promotion of human rights and reiterate our support to the United Nations Treaty mechanisms, which lie at the heart of the human rights framework. The 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child also provides the international community with an opportunity to reaffirm its commitment to ensuring the full implementation of the Convention, as well as to evaluate progress that has been made since its adoption and challenges that remain.

The commitment of the Government of Malta to the Convention remains unwavering and we will actively follow-up on the recommendations received by this Committee following the closure of this session. Malta will continue to cooperate with this Committee, also by engaging in interactive dialogue, such as at this session.

Mr. Chairperson,

The Convention itself covers several areas, which in Malta fall under the responsibility of different Ministries. The report and Malta's responses to the list of issues submitted for consideration are therefore the outcome of close collaboration across Government. This is also reflected by the broad representative nature of Malta's Delegation here today, which is represented by senior officials from our Ministry for the Family, Children's Rights and Social Solidarity; the Ministry for Justice, Culture and Local Government; the Ministry for Home Affairs and National Security; the Ministry for Health and the Ministry for Education and Employment.

But, without further ado, with your permission, Mr. Chairperson, I would now like to give the floor to the Head of Malta's Delegation, Dr. Marisa Scerri, Director-General in the Ministry for the Family, Children's Rights and Social Solidarity, to set out the priorities in the report with respect to today's review.