



**Statement by Ms. Sasha Dixon, Second Secretary
Permanent Mission of The Bahamas to the United Nations Office and Other
International Organizations in Geneva
at the 37th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group
Presentation of National Report by the Government of Georgia
26th January, 2021**

Thank you, Madam/Mr. [Vice] President.

The Bahamas extends a warm welcome to the delegation of Georgia and thanks the country for its report.

We welcome the demonstrated commitment of Georgia to the promotion and protection of human rights and commend the country for successful constitutional reform efforts which consolidate standards of human rights protection in Georgia, focusing on social rights, rights of persons with disabilities, child rights, and gender equality. We also positively recognise significant progress in the area of anti-corruption, leading Georgia's achievement of one of the lowest rates of corruption among European States.

In a constructive spirit, The Bahamas **recommends** that Georgia:

- (i) Prioritise the implementation of strengthened policy measures to reduce poverty and increase food security, particularly, among rural populations;
- (ii) Conduct a widespread public awareness campaign with a view to reducing rates of hate crime; and
- (iii) Take concrete steps to improve coordination between the Public Defender and the Ministry of Justice in an effort to advance progress on issues relating to criminal justice reform.

We wish Georgia every success in this UPR process.

I thank you.