**UN Human Rights Council**

**46th Session**

**Interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment**

8 March 2021

**Statement by the Czech Republic**

Madam President,

The Czech Republic aligns itself with the EU statement.

We thank the Special Rapporteur for his report and the focus on evaluation of the effectiveness of States' cooperation with a view to achieve the purpose of the mandate.

The Czech Republic shares the strong commitment to combatting torture and other ill-treatment worldwide, in line with relevant international and regional treaties and standards on human rights.

This report has revealed significant challenges in terms States' compliance with their obligations. At the same time, it raised some issues of concern with regard to the substantive levels of cooperation between States and the mandate, pointing at falling short of the standard of „full cooperation“.

We support the emphasis placed by the Special Rapporteur on strengthening the positive mutual interaction. The findings should be taken carefully into account in mapping out the path for change. In our view, both cooperation between States and mandate-holders, and ensuring follow-up on the implementation of recommendations are vital determinants of special procedures influence.

*Mr. Melzer, we would be interested in hearing more regarding your plans for future fact-finding country visits and information collection efforts in the context of COVID*-*19 restrictions.*

I thank you.