**UN Human Rights Council**

**50th session**

**Item 4 – Interactive Dialogue with the High Commissioner on the situation of human rights in Venezuela**

*29 June 2022*

**Intervention by the Czech Republic**

Thank you, Mr President.

The Czech Republic aligns itself with the intervention delivered on behalf of the EU.

We welcome and support the work of the High Commissioner and thank her for the presented report.

We express concern over serious human rights violations raised by the report, including torture and ill treatment of people deprived of liberty. We join the High Commissioner´s call for independent, thorough and timely investigation of all deaths.

Simultaneously, we urge the Venezuelan authorities to ensure that pre-trial detentions and other coercive measures are used in strict compliance with international standards. Venezuelan regime should refrain from restricting freedom of expression and civic space.

Madame High Commissioner, in your report you mentioned some examples of  assistance provided by the OHCHR to Venezuela in the field of human rights. At the same time, it is clear from the report that many challenges remain unaddressed by the authorities. *How do you assess the current state of play of cooperation between your Office and the Venezuelan authorities? What more can the international community do to support you in your efforts?*

I thank you.