**48th Session of the UN Human Rights Council**

Item 4 - Interactive dialogue with the Commission of Inquiry on Burundi

*23 September 2021*

**Statement by the Czech Republic**

The Czech Republic aligns with the statement made on behalf of the European Union.

We thank the Commission of Inquiry for the comprehensive report and persistent efforts throughout the duration of its important mandate.

The Czech Republic remains deeply concerned about the human rights situation in Burundi. We remain deeply worried by reportsof serious human rights violations committed by the State officials and by the members of the Imbonerakure militia.

A point of particular concern in this connection is that there remain risk factors for a further quick deterioration of the human rights situation in Burundi. We cannot risk another human rights crisis in this region. Therefore, the Czech Republic stresses the vital importance of Burundi’s full cooperation with the OHCHR and all relevant UN human rights mechanisms in a constructive and unlimited manner.

*Given the numerous human rights challenges in Burundi, we would welcome the Commission’s view on which areas to prioritise?*

I thank you.