**Intersessional Panel Discussion on Challenges and Good Practices in the Prevention of Corruption, and the Impact of Corruption on the Enjoyment of Human Rights in the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic**

**15 February, 2022**

At the outset, let me thank Mr. President for convening today’s intersessional meeting on this very important topic.

In this context, let me share Georgia’s experience, as a country, which due to carried out fundamental anti-corruption reforms became a leader in our region and beyond, with one of the lowest corruption indicators in Europe.

The Government of Georgia bases its anticorruption policy on the principle that the fight against corruption should not be limited to a one-step reform, as it requires constant and continuous efforts in various cross-sectoral directions.

The main vision and landmark of the country are to achieve a high level of transparency and accountability, to increase access to information and public involvement, further refine the corruption prevention mechanisms, which, inter alia, serve to continue the effective fighting against corruption.

Currently, the key policy objectives of the Administration of the Government of Georgia in the field of anti-corruption policy are the following:

* Develop and ensure effective implementation of a new Anti-Corruption National Strategy and the relevant Action Plan for 2022-2023;
* Strengthen the AC Council and enhance the mechanisms for the prevention of and fight against corruption.

Finally, in the context of the Impact of Corruption on the Enjoyment of Human Rights and the COVID-19 Pandemic, let me highlight that Georgia is strongly committed to building an inclusive national framework. To achieve this, country continues to integrate human rights-based approaches into the process of state policymaking and legislative activities.