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- UPR Tunisia -

Intervention of Portugal

Pedro Rodrigues da Silva
Counsellor

Thank you Madame President,

Portugal would like to thank the Tunisian delegation for the presentation of its excellent UPR national report.

Portugal welcomes the Tunisian authorities' commitment to the consolidation of the transition to democracy and to the realization of Human Rights. In this regard we particularly welcome the creation of the Ministry of Human Rights and Transitional Justice and the ratification of the **OP-CAT**.

While acknowledging that executions are no longer taking place in Tunisia since 1991, we would like to know whether your country intends to amend the legal provisions, including the Penal Code, so as to replace the **death penalty** with other penalties, which do not include cruel, inhuman or degrading punishments. We recommend that Tunisia signs and ratifies the second Optional Protocol to ICCPR.

Portugal welcomes the ratification of the CRPD and we recommend that Tunisia adopts and implements appropriate measures to ensure that **persons with disabilities**, particularly women and girls with disabilities, have access to an inclusive education system and that they can participate effectively and fully in political and public life, on an equal basis with others.

We note with satisfaction the prohibition, in 2010, of corporal punishments against **children**. We are concerned however with the lack of special treatment to children who are deprived of liberty and we recommend the adoption of measures to align national legislation and practices with the provisions of the CRC (particularly those of article 37 c)) and that Tunisia signs and ratifies the third Optional Protocol to the CRC. I thank you.