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PERMANENT MISSION OF PORTUGAL  
GENEVA

Statement by Her Excellency Ambassador Graça Andresen Guimarães  
Permanent Representative of Portugal

16<sup>th</sup> session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group  
*Germany*

Mr. President,

Portugal extends a warm welcome to the delegation of Germany to the UPR lead by HE Mr. Markus Löning, Federal Commissioner for Human Rights and commends Germany for its firm standing in the protection and promotion of human rights and for successfully implementing most of the recommendations formulated in the last UPR.

Having a significant Portuguese community in Germany, Portugal welcomes the recent initiatives of the German Government in the field of integration of migrants, namely the development of economic and social indicators for migrants and minority groups, as had been recommended in the previous UPR. We note with appreciation that the second indicator report, published in 2012, showed an improvement in most sectors and we would like to know which areas still might be improved and which follow-up the Government is planning to give to the findings of that report.

Mr. President,

We commend Germany for the several international instruments ratified since the last UPR, namely the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and would like to recommend that Germany signs and ratifies the Optional Protocol to the IC ESCR and ratifies the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.

I thank you Mr. President.