**Universal Periodic Review 17 – Malaysia**

**Intervention by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Mr. President,

The Netherlands compliments Malaysia for its efforts to reform a broad number of issues under the 1Malaysia program. This program calls for the cabinet, government agencies, and civil servants to increasingly emphasise ethnic harmony, national unity, and efficient governance. The Netherlands looks forward to further implementation of ideas along these lines.

Mr. President,

Malaysia is not yet party to some key human rights treaties offering citizens basic protection. The Netherlands is specifically concerned about the practice of caning. Nearly 80.000 persons have been caned between 2005 and 2012, of whom over 30.000 for violating the Immigration Act. In more general terms it appears that police-conduct in accordance with international human rights standards needs continued attention. Furthermore, the Netherlands is concerned about the situation of LGBT-persons in Malaysia.

Therefore, The Kingdom of the Netherlands would like to recommend the government of Malaysia the following:

1. to ensure that police conduct be in accordance with international human rights standards through human rights training for all police and security officers, and the signing and ratifying of the UN Convention against Torture;
2. to repeal sections of the Malaysian Penal Code that criminalize consensual same-sex conduct between adults.

I thank you, Mr. President.