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Statement by  
Portugal

NUNO CARREIRO CABRAL  
1st Secretary

19<sup>th</sup> session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group  
**Norway**

Mr. President,

Let me start by extending a warm welcome to the delegation of Norway lead by H.E the Minister of Foreign Affairs Borge Brende and thank him for the presentation of Norway's excellent national UPR report.

Portugal commends Norway's national and international commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights which is reflected, *inter alia*, in its active participation in the UN Human Rights *fora* and in its contribution to the UN activities and to other international development cooperation programmes. At the national level, we particularly welcome the set up, by Norway, of an inter-ministerial group for human rights issues under the leadership of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. President,

Portugal recommends that Norway develops campaigns to raise immigrants' awareness on their rights, particularly with regard to their rights to access to **health** care services. We also recommend that Norway further improves training given to health professionals on interculturalism.

Taking into consideration the higher drop-out rate of immigrant students in upper secondary-education in Norway, Portugal recommends that Norway takes additional measures to ensure the full enjoyment of the **right to education** by children with an immigrant background.

Following up to the 2009 review exercise we would like to reiterate our recommendation that Norway ratifies the Optional Protocol to the **ICESCR**. We also recommend that Norway signs and ratifies the Optional Protocol to the CRC on a **communications procedure** and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Mr. President,

In closing, Portugal would like to ask the Norwegian Delegation about the on-going process of re-establishing its National Human Rights Institution

I thank you.