

**Universal Periodic Review 19 – Portugal
Intervention by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands commends Portugal on its forward position on equal rights for LGBT. The Portuguese law on Gender Identity ranks amongst one of the most progressive. The Netherlands is glad to share the same principles in this regard.

We do have some concern about the position of minorities, including Roma, and especially the access to public services for this group. We want to thank the delegation for their attention to this point in the opening remarks. Furthermore, the Netherlands would like to express some concern about the duration of legal procedures, which should stay within the statute of limitations, and the necessity to improve conditions for detainees.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands recommends the government of Portugal:

1. to secure equal access to public services for migrants and minorities, including Roma.
2. to expedite the judicial processes so cases stay within the statute of limitation, and to improve the conditions in penitentiary facilities.

I thank you, Mr. President.