

**Statement by the State of Palestine at the Universal Periodic Review of  
Portugal, 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2014**

Mr. President,

The State of Palestine welcomes the delegation of Portugal to the second cycle of the UPR and thanks it for the presentation of Portugal's national report.

We commend the efforts made by the Government to implement recommendations that emanated from the first UPR cycle despite the challenges posed by the economic crisis.

Since the first UPR review, a number of innovative measures have been introduced by Portugal to promote integration and fight racial discrimination of less favoured communities. We welcome these efforts and recommend that Portugal continue on this path, including by taking further measures to improve the access of immigrants, foreigners and ethnic minorities to adequate housing, education, public services, and employment.

We also welcome legislative and other measures that have been taken to combat domestic violence including the adoption of the Fourth National Action Plan against Domestic Violence, and recommend that Portugal continue to take steps, in particular within the Action Plan, to combat and prevent domestic violence and ensure that victims have effective access to complaint mechanisms.

We wish Portugal every success in its future endeavours to promote and protect the human rights of its people.

Thank you Mr. President.