



59

**STATEMENT OF VIET NAM**  
**H.E. Mr. Nguyen Trung Thanh, Ambassador, Permanent Representative**  
At the Review of the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle UPR Report of Portugal

*(Wednesday, April 30, 2014)*

*Mr. President,*

Viet Nam welcomes and thanks the delegation of Portugal for its detailed and informative presentation to the Council today. We commend commitments and actions taken by the Portuguese government in protecting and promoting human rights, especially against the backdrop of recent financial and economic hardship in the country. In this respect, we highly appreciate the adoption and implementation of the Social Emergency Plan <sup>(in)</sup> since October 2011, which was designed to support individuals who are the most socially vulnerable, such as children, the elderly and persons with disabilities.

While believing there <sup>is</sup> are rooms for further improvement, We also take a good note of achievements concluded so far in protecting the rights of, and combating discrimination against women, ethnic minorities and migrants in Portugal. We see in these achievements the great endeavours and resources invested by the Government of Portugal in sustaining social welfare system and enhancing national human rights protection and promotion mechanisms, despite the financial shortcomings.

➤ ~~In line with that~~, Viet Nam would like to put forward the following recommendations:

1. Adopt further measures to reduce the gender pay gap in all sectors of the economy;
2. Expand human rights education campaign, especially ~~that~~ on rights of women, children, the elderly and minorities, (to) law enforcement officers;

3. Based on the performance assessment of the October 2011 Social Emergency Plan, establish and implement effective economic strategies of sustainable recovery and development that integrate elements of poverty alleviation and protection of human rights.

We wish Portugal every success in the 2<sup>nd</sup> UPR cycle.

I thank you./.