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MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND

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**19<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR working group  
Questions and recommendations by Finland to Portugal  
30<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

Mr. President,

Finland congratulates Portugal for the systematic way it has made use of the Universal Periodic Review to support its commitment to human rights.

1) Finland is content that Portugal has elaborated the National Strategy for the Integration of Roma Communities in a participative process and established a Consultative Council in 2013 to steer the integration further.

The structural adjustment Portugal is undergoing, evidently presents risks for the most vulnerable groups such as the Roma. What kinds of measures are taken to minimize the impact of austerity in the case of the Roma communities?

**Finland recommends that Portugal continues the efforts to improve the access to education for the children and youth from Roma communities as also UNESCO has suggested.**

2) Portugal has adopted the Fourth National Action Plan against Domestic Violence. Nevertheless, UN treaty bodies have called for further attention to the tendency not to report domestic violence due to traditional attitudes. How is Portugal fighting this silence and ensuring that cases of domestic violence are effectively investigated? Are any particular measures targeted at women belonging to vulnerable minority groups?

Thank you.