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PERMANENT MISSION OF PORTUGAL
GENEVA

Statement by Mr. Nuno Gabriel Cabral
Permanent Mission of Portugal
21st session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group
(January – February 2015)

Armenia

Mr. President,

Portugal welcomes the delegation of Armenia and thanks it for the presentation of the national UPR report.

Portugal welcomes the mid-term report submitted by Armenia in 2013, as well as the ratification of the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Portugal also welcomes the significant steps given by Armenia towards promotion of gender equality, and in this context would like to recommend that Armenia adopt a National Action Plan on Security Council Resolution (1325) on Women, Peace and Security. Also in the context of the promotion of gender equality, Portugal recommends that Armenia consider developing Human Rights Indicators as suggested by the OHCHR as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies.

Finally, Portugal encourages Armenia to pursue its efforts towards better protection of children's rights, as well as to elaborate additional measures for ensuring and expanding the enjoyment of the right to education. As such, we recommend that Armenia ratify the Optional Protocol to the ICESCR, as well as the Optional Protocol to the CRC on a Communications Procedure.

Thank you Mr President.