

Ana Helena Maignes Human nights Count

PERMANENT MISSION OF PORTUGAL **GENEVA**

Statement by Portugal Permanent Mission of Portugal 21st session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group (19 - 30 January 2015)

Kiribati

Mr. President,

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

Portugal welcomes the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by Kiribati in 2013, and recommends that, in this regard, Kiribati continues its efforts to promote and protect all human rights, in particular those of persons with disabilities.

Portugal also welcomes the significant steps given by Kiribati towards greater preparedness for the effects of climate change on human rights, namely by adopting the country's Integrated Environmental Policy and the Joint Implementation Plan on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management.

Portugal recommends that Kiribati considers 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. Portugal would also like to ask the Kiribati delegation to explain further how principles such as non-discrimination and gender participation are integrated into these broad national policies.

Finally, Portugal recommends that Kiribati ratifies the ICESCR as an important tool to give greater effectiveness to the protection of human rights in the context of climate change, as well as ICERD and the Convention Against Torture.

Thank you, Mr President.