

21th session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group

(19 - 30 January 2015)

Statement by Portugal

Kuwait

Thank you, Mr. President.

Portugal welcomes the Delegation of Kuwait and thanks it for the presentation of the national UPR report.

Portugal welcomes the steps taken by Kuwait to promote and protect human rights since its first UPR, particularly the issuing of a standing invitation to the Council's Special Procedures.

Portugal further welcomes the presentation of a bill of law by the National Assembly on the establishment of a Human Rights Office and recommends the creation of a National Human Rights Institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.

Portugal is concerned that Kuwait continues to apply the capital punishment. Portugal recommends that Kuwait establishes a moratorium on executions as a first step towards abolition of the death penalty. We also recommend that Kuwait ratifies the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

Portugal further offers the Government of Kuwait the following recommendations:

- The ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;
- The adoption of a National Action Plan on Security Council Resolution on Women Peace and Security (1325);
- The development of Human Rights Indicators as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies;
- The ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the Optional Protocol to CEDAW.

Thank you, Mr. President.