



NUNO GABRIEL CABRAL

PERMANENT MISSION OF PORTUGAL
GENEVA

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(19 -30 January 2015)

Statement by Portugal

Lao People's Democratic Republic

Mr. President,

Portugal welcomes the delegation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and thanks it for the presentation of the national UPR report.

Portugal welcomes that the Lao People's Democratic Republic has become a party to the Convention Against Torture. Moreover, Portugal welcomes the progresses achieved in the promotion of the rights of women and, in this context, would like to recommend that the Lao People's Democratic Republic adopts a National Action Plan on Security Council Resolution (1325) on Women, Peace and Security.

Furhermore, Portugal would like to offer the following recommendations to the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic:

- to undertake a thorough investigation, consistent with international practices and standards, into the disappearance of Mr. Sombath Somphone;
- to consider establishing a national human rights institution compliant with the Paris principles and provided with the necessary resources to adequately carry out its mandate;
- to ratify the Second Optional to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, on abolishing the death penalty; the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture; and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Thank you Mr President.