

22nd session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group

(4 - 15 May 2015)

Statement by Portugal

Panama

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

Portugal welcomes the steps taken by Panama to protect and promote human rights since its first UPR report; such as the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Portugal further commends Panama on its accession, in 2011, to the two conventions on statelessness.

However, Portugal is concerned with the levels of violence against women and children, and therefore recommends Panama to take all adequate measures to promptly eliminate all forms of violence, including abuse and neglect of children.

Portugal would also like to offer the following recommendations to the Government of Panama:

- To implement the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court into national law;
- To consider developing Human Rights Indicators as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies;
- To ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Thank you, Mr President.