

final



**23<sup>rd</sup> session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group**

(2 - 13 November 2015)

Statement by Portugal

**Austria**

Mr. President,

Portugal warmly welcomes the delegation of Austria and thanks it for its comprehensive national UPR report.

Portugal welcomes that since the last review, Austria has ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, as well as the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women.

Portugal further commends Austria for the approval of measures to strengthen children's rights, in particular the adoption of the Federal Constitutional Act on the Rights of the Child, as well as the signature, in 2012, of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure. We would like to recommend Austria the swift ratification of this optional protocol.

Portugal is concerned that under the Austrian nationality law there are certain limitations for children born out of wedlock to access Austrian nationality and would like to recommend Austria to address this issue and ensure non-discrimination.

Finally, Portugal would like to reiterate its recommendation made during the first cycle of the UPR for Austria to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Thank you, Mr. President.