



95

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

(2 - 13 November 2015)

Statement by Portugal

### **Lebanon**

Mr. President,

Let me start by extending a warm welcome to the delegation of Lebanon and thanking it for the presentation of Lebanon's national UPR report.

Portugal welcomes the fact that since its previous review Lebanon has extended a Standing Invitation to the Council's Special Procedures. We also welcome the achievements of the National Ten-Year Strategy for Women's affairs in Lebanon (2011-2021), as well as the endorsement by the Parliament Law Committee that of a law for establishing an NHRI. We recommend that Lebanon finalizes this procedure and establishes a NHRI in full compliance with the Paris Principles.

Given Lebanon's de facto moratorium on the death penalty, Portugal recommends that it abolishes the capital punishment in all cases and in all circumstances.

Portugal further recommends that Lebanon considers establishing a permanent inter-ministerial committee responsible for the implementation of its international human rights obligations, inter alia, for coordinating the drafting of the national reports to the Treaty Bodies and for organizing country visits by the Council's Special Procedures. Furthermore, Portugal recommends that Lebanon considers developing Human Rights Indicators, as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies.

Finally, we recommend that Lebanon withdraws its reservations to CEDAW and ratifies the CRPD (Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities), the Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR (International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights) aiming at the abolition of the death penalty and the Optional Protocol to ICESCR (International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights).

Thank you Mr. President.