**Universal Periodic Review 23 –Micronesia**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Thank you Mr. President,

The Netherlands would like to thank the Federated States of Micronesia for its comprehensive report.

We welcome the positive steps taken by Micronesia towards equal rights for women, notably efforts to promote the participation of more women in political decision making positions.

We would like to recall, however, that Micronesia during the first UPR-cycle accepted recommendations regarding its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). These reservations unfortunately seem to remain in place.

We therefore recommend Micronesia:

1. To withdraw its reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).
2. To ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), also with a view to help ensure equal rights of, and end discrimination against LGBTI-persons.

Thank you, Mr. President.