**Universal Periodic Review 23 – The Federation of St Kitts and Nevis**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Thank you Mr. President,

The Netherlands would like to thank the Federation of St Kitts and Nevis for its comprehensive report.

During its first Universal Periodic Review in January 2011, St Kitts and Nevis accepted recommendations to consider ratifying two of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to review national legislation to ensure compliance with the principles and provisions of this Convention. The Netherlands has noted that St Kitts and Nevis has yet to ratify the Optional Protocols.

Although St Kitts and Nevis has refrained from using the death penalty since 2008, the government has not yet established an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands would therefore likes to recommend the government of St Kitts and Nevis:

1. to ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, at the earliest possible time.

2. to establish an official moratorium to abolish the death penalty as called for in five UN General Assembly resolutions, including most recently resolution 69/186 of 18 December 2014.

Thank you, Mr. President.