**Universal Periodic Review 24 – PALAU**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Thank you Mr. President,

[The Netherlands thanks Palau for its comprehensive report.]

We would like to commend Palau for decriminalizing homosexuality through a revision of the penal code in 2014. We note that work remains to be done to bring Palau’s national legislation in conformity with its international human rights obligations.

1) The Netherlands recommends Palau to introduce comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, including discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

2) We also recommend that Palau accedes to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court, and the 1968 Convention on the non-applicability of statutory limitations to war crimes and crimes against humanity, and implement these in national law.

Thank you, Mr. President.