**Universal Periodic Review 24 – the Republic of Seychelles**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Thank you Mr. President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks the Republic of Seychelles for its comprehensive report.

The Netherlands compliments Seychelles with the inclusion of a wide range of rights for women in the national legislation and the high level of female representation in national institutions.

The Netherlands however remains concerned about the state of enforcement of the legislature to eliminate gender-based violence.

* The Netherlands recommends Seychelles to adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, including on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
* The Netherlands recommends Seychelles to put in place protection measures that would allow girls to return to school after giving birth and to raise awareness with a view to eliminating the existing prejudices that impede and discourage teenage mothers from returning to school.

The Netherlands notes that Seychelles has not yet incorporated the provisions of the Rome Statute to cooperate promptly and fully with the International Criminal Court and has also not yet ratified the Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Court (APIC).

Thank you Mr. President