



24<sup>th</sup> Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group

(18 - 29 January 2015)

Statement by Portugal

**Solomon Islands**

Mr. President,

Portugal welcomes the delegation of Solomon Islands and thanks it for its national UPR report.

Portugal welcomes the on-going efforts by Solomon Islands to ratify a number of international human rights treaties and optional protocols, following recommendations received in the first cycle of the UPR. We recommend in particular the ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and its second optional protocol, as well as the Convention Against Torture (CAT).

We also commend Solomon Islands for having signed the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and accepting a recommendation during the first cycle of the UPR to ratify it. However, we note that it still hasn't done so and therefore we recommend that Salomon Islands ratify the Rome Statute and fully align its national legislation with its provisions.

The Solomon Islands are particularly vulnerable to climate change and Portugal encourages all efforts aimed at mitigating this threat so that instability and migration movements cease to impact on the quality of life.

Finally, we recommend Solomon Islands to take all the necessary measures to establish an Independent National Human Rights Institution with "A" status in accordance with the Paris Principles.

Thank you, Mr. President.