

Universal Periodic Review 24 – Solomon Islands

Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Thank you Mr. President,

The Netherlands thanks the Government of Solomon Islands for its comprehensive report and commends Solomon Islands for the progress made in implementing, promoting and protecting human rights within its legislative and policy frameworks.

We have concerns about the legal protection of human rights in Solomon Islands, and are especially concerned about discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

CEDAW has expressed concern over the implementation of legislation on violence against women.

The Netherlands therefore recommends the government:

1. to adopt comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation, including discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity, and repeal any laws which result in, or are likely to result in, the discrimination, prosecution and punishment of people solely for their sexual orientation or gender identity.
2. to take measures to ensure that the police respond to and investigate complaints regarding violence against women

and that perpetrators are prosecuted and punished, and collect data on the number of prosecutions and convictions, including at the provincial level [CEDAW recommendation].

The Netherlands furthermore notes that Solomon Islands have not yet ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Thank you Mr. President.