

Universal Periodic Review 25 – Antigua and Barbuda

Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Thank you Mr. President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks Antigua and Barbuda for its comprehensive report.

The government of Antigua and Barbuda stated in their report that the LGBTI community are generally not discriminated. We remain, however, concerned about their full rights, in particular of those from the lower economic bracket.

The Netherlands recommends Antigua and Barbuda:

1. to repeal articles 12 and 15 of the Sexual Offence Act 1995 that criminalize sexual relations between consenting individuals of the same sex, which are contradictory to the commitment of non-discrimination.
2. to establish an official moratorium on executions and to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International

Ambassador Reinout Vos

Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty, so as to bring national legislation into conformity with the de facto moratorium.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands, in view of recent calls from within Antigua and Barbuda's society for a full reinstatement of the death penalty, asks the Antigua and Barbuda government to address this negative trend.

Thank you, Mr. President.
