**Universal Periodic Review –Suriname**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Thank you Mr. President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks Suriname for its comprehensive report [and for addressing our advance questions]. We welcome the fact that the death penalty has been abolished [in the Criminal Code]. We also welcome the importance Suriname attaches to women’s rights. However, we note that the ‘National Policy Plan Structural Approach Domestic Violence 2014-2017’ still has to be approved.

The Netherlands recommends Suriname:

1. to implement the recommendations of the Human Rights Committee, by prosecuting and sentencing, as appropriate, the perpetrators of the extrajudicial executions of December 1982 and the Moiwana massacre in 1986.
2. to take all necessary steps to adopt legislative and other measures to explicitly prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

Like the Human Rights Committee (report 8.10.15) the Netherlands urges Suriname to repeal the Amnesty Act. Suriname should also comply forthwith with international human rights law requiring accountability for those responsible for serious human rights violations, in respect of which States are required to bring perpetrators to justice, including by completing the pending criminal prosecutions.

Thank you, Mr. President.