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25th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group

(2 - 13 May 2016)

Statement by Portugal

Suriname

Mr. President,

Portugal welcomes the delegation of Suriname and thanks it for the presentation of the national UPR report.

We welcome that since its first UPR Suriname has ratified the Optional Protocol to Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.

Portugal also notes the positive impact of recent policy measures adopted regarding education, namely the abolition of all school tuition, which have resulted in an improved access to education, especially for families living in the interior of the country and the situation of poor family households.

Furthermore, we would like to welcome Suriname for passing legislation establishing a national human rights institution. Nevertheless, we would like to recommend Suriname to take all the necessary steps to ensure that this institution complies fully with the Paris Principles.

Portugal would also like to recommend Suriname extends a Standing Invitation to the Council's Special Procedures.

Finally, Mr. President, Portugal recommends that Suriname sign and ratify the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. Portugal also recommends that Suriname ratify the Optional Protocol to the ICESCR and the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR.

Thank you, Mr. President.