**Universal Periodic Review 27 – Algeria**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Thank you, Mr. President,

The Netherlands thanks Algeria for its comprehensive report [and for addressing our advance questions] and

recommends Algeria:

1. To bring the legal provisions on freedom of association and assembly fully into line with international human rights standards and ensure that nongovernmental human rights organisations can operate legally in Algerian society.
2. To ensure that international norms on freedom of religion and belief and cult are fully respected, including the rights of religious minorities.

The Netherlands welcomes the positive steps towards reforms made by Algeria to bring its national legislation into line with its international human rights obligations, in particular the amendment of the Constitution in 2016, the creation of a National Human Rights Council and changes to the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The Netherlands continues to stand ready to cooperate with Algeria in furthering this progress, by exchanging expertise, dialogue and working with its vibrant civil society.

The Netherlands finally wishes Algeria every success in this UPR.

Thank you, Mr. President