**Universal Periodic Review 46 – Cyprus**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks the delegation of Cyprus for the presentation of its national report.

We commend Cyprus for the steps taken to combat violence against women and girls and encourage them to further implement the National Action Plan.

The ongoing division of the island has many human rights implications. We encourage Cyprus to continue efforts towards re-unification.

The Netherlands recommends Cyprus to:

1. Ensure that detention of migrants and asylum-seekers is only used as a measure of last resort and is reasonable, necessary and proportionate, in accordance with the Human Rights Committee’s general comment No. 35 (2014) on liberty and security of persons.
2. Strenghten the efforts to ensure that legislation and practices conform fully with the requirements of ICCPR article 18, including by taking immediate measures to remove undue restrictions on access to places of worship.

We wish Cyprus every success with the follow-up on all recommendations.

Thank you.