**Universal Periodic Review 46 – Dominican Republic**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

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

We commend the Dominican Republic’s Government on efforts made in the fight against corruption and impunity, including through the appointment of an independent Prosecutor General and the legislative proposal to promote transparency in public contracts.

At the same time, we remain concerned about the prevalence of discrimination against LGBTIQ+ persons and the delays in the adoption of an Equality and Non-Discrimination law, which has been pending in Congress since 2018.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands recommends the Dominican Republic to:

1. Protect the sexual and reproductive health and rights of women and girls, including those with disabilities, by ensuring their access to sexual and reproductive health information, commodities and services including those to prevent maternal mortality.
2. Step up efforts to eliminate all forms of discrimination and adopt legislation and effective policies to protect the rights of LGBTIQ+ persons, including through the adoption of Equality and Non-discrimination legislation.

The Netherlands wishes the Dominican Republic every success with the implementation and follow-up of all accepted recommendations.

Thank you, President.