

*Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève*

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| **WG UPR – Vietnam** ***Belgian intervention***30 April 2024 |

President,

Belgium congratulates Vietnam with the ratification of ILO Conventions 98 (Right to Organise) and 105 (Abolition of Forced Labour). Nevertheless, Belgium believes more progress can be achieved and recommends the government of Vietnam to:

**R.1.** Ratify ILO Convention 87 (Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise).

**R2.** Repeal or revise Articles 117 and 331 of the 2015 Criminal Code, to ensure the right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly in line with the ICCPR.

As a strong opponent of the death penalty, Belgium recommends Vietnam at least to:

**R3.** Restrict the use of the death penalty to crimes that meet the threshold of “most serious crimes” under international law.

Thank you.