Statement by Portugal

28th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group

**Guatemala**

Mr. President,

Portugal welcomes the delegation of Guatemala and thanks it for the presentation of the national UPR report. We commend Guatemala for the efforts in addressing violence and insecurity, which led to a reduction in the number of violent deaths over the past two years.

Portugal addresses Guatemala the following recommendations:

1. Strengthen the role and capacity of the National Civil Police, with a view to reducing the role of the Armed Forces in the maintenance of public order;

2. Ensure that all private security companies are registered and that their activities are properly monitored;

3. Implement compulsory primary education, providing resources to ensure the quality and infrastructure of the education system;

4. Adopt practical measures to promote equal representation of men and women in elected public office and by guaranteeing equal remuneration and satisfactory working conditions to all citizens;

5. Ensure free, universal birth registration and provide all children born in the territory – particularly those born in indigenous communities – with a birth certificate.;

6. Enhance the promotion and protection of the rights of women including through the elimination of violence against women and girls.

5. Consider the establishment or the strengthening of the existing national mechanism for coordination, implementation, reporting and follow-up, in line with elements arising from good practices identified in the OHCHR Study/Guide of 2016 concerning NMRF´s.

To conclude, Mr. President, Portugal recommends Guatemala to transform its de facto moratorium on the application of the death penalty into definitive abolition.

Thank you, Mr. President.