**Universal Periodic Review 37 – Federated States of Micronesia**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands – 18 January 2021**

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks the delegation of the Federated States of Micronesia for the presentation of its national report.

We welcome the passing of the CA-20-150 Act that amends section 107 of the Code of the Federated States of Micronesia, that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation. We also welcome the launch of your country’s first Violence Against Women counselling center in Chuuk state. However, the Netherlands remains concerned about the high rates of gender-based and domestic violence in Micronesia.

Therefore, we recommend the Federated States of Micronesia, to:

1. Include sexual assault and sexual abuse in either marriages or de facto relationships within the classification of rape under the State Codes of Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae and Yap.
2. Sign and ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, with the aim to end discrimination against the most vulnerable groups, including women, children, internally displaced persons, migrants and refugees.

The Netherlands wishes the Federated States of Micronesia success with the follow-up of all recommendations it receives during this third UPR cycle.

Thank you