**Universal Periodic Review 38 – Belgium**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

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

The Netherlands commends Belgium for the steps taken to establish an independent and publicly accountable Federal Human Rights Institute. We encourage Belgium to ensure it has national coverage and is fully compliant with the Paris Principles.

The Netherlands **recommends** Belgium:

1. To adopt new policy measures to promote enterprises headquartered in Belgium to respect human rights and carry out human rights due diligence throughout their global operations and supply chains.

2. To ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and to establish a national preventive mechanism to ensure the monitoring of all places where people are deprived of their liberty.

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

Thank you.