**Universal Periodic Review 38 – Latvia**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

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

The Netherlands commends the Latvian Government for its adoption of the Action Plan 2020-2025 aimed at implemention of Security Council resolution 1325 on “Women, Peace and Security”.

The Netherlands **recommends** Latvia:

1. To introduce legislation that recognises different forms of partnerships and that grants same sex couples the same rights and social security benefits as couples of the opposite sex, as previously recommended;
2. To ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (known as the Istanbul Convention).

While recognizing the sensitivity of these issues in the domestic domain, the Netherlands wishes Latvia success with the follow-up of all recommendations it receives during this third UPR cycle.

Thank you.