**Universal Periodic Review 38 – Mozambique**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

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

The Netherlands notes with appreciation the progress on the promotion of safe abortion since the last review.

However, we are concerned about reports of violent insurgency in the north of Mozambique.

The Netherlands **recommends** Mozambique:

1. To undertake prompt, thorough, impartial, independent and transparent investigations into all cases of attacks, harassment, intimidation, and forced disappearance of civil society actors, journalists, human rights defenders, religious clerics, and academics.
2. To lift all provisions in the Law on Association that limit the registration and activities of civil society working on issues of sexual orientation and gender identity.
3. To ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and to implement it into national law.

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

Thank you.