**Universal Periodic Review 39 – Greece**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

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

The Netherlands welcomes the ratification by Greece of the Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.

We also acknowledge its efforts in protecting the European external borders against the flow of irregular migrants. Whilst understanding the tremendous pressure Greece faces, the Netherlands is concerned about accusations relating to pushbacks.

We therefore **recommend** Greece:

1. to investigate all acts of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence, and increase support for victims, in line with the Istanbul Convention.

2. to ensure swift and independent investigation and follow up on accusations relating to pushbacks of migrants, in accordance with its international obligations.

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

Thank you.