**Universal Periodic Review 39 – Suriname**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

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

We commend the Surinamese Government for its efforts to uphold the freedom of expression and to ensure a diverse, pluralistic and independent media landscape. We encourage Suriname to continue its good efforts in this field.

We remain concerned about the prevalence of domestic violence and the illegality of abortion in Suriname.

Considering this, the Kingdom of the Netherlands recommends Suriname:

1. *Decriminalize abortion in all circumstances and remove legal, administrative and practical barriers to accessing safe and legal abortion services in order to comply (inter alia) with Article 36 paragraph 2 of the Constitution of Suriname.*

2.  *Implement the Law on domestic violence more efficiently and provide adequate protection for victims of domestic violence, inter alia by efficiently holding perpetrators accountable and giving victims adequate legal and psychosocial support.*

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

Thank you.