

**Statement delivered by Sumbue ANTAS,**

**Ambassador/ Permanent Representative of the Republic of Vanuatu to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva**

**41**st **Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

15.11.2022

Thank you, Mr. President.

Vanuatu welcomes the delegation of the Netherlands to this review and thanks them for their presentation today.

Vanuatu commends the active commitment of the Government of the Netherlands to the further promotion and protection of human rights to its people.

We welcome the policies adopted by the Government of the Netherlands to combat climate change, in particular the adoption of the Climate Agreement, the Climate Act and the first Climate Plan, which includes the goal of becoming climate neutral by 2050.

In the spirit of a constructive engagement, Vanuatu wishes to make the following recommendations to the Netherlands:

1. Continue to implement prudent policies to protect vulnerable groups from the negative impacts of climate change;
2. Strengthen its efforts to bring the national laws with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, which require businesses to respect human rights in their operations.

Vanuatu wishes the Netherlands a successful review.

Thank you