

Statement by Jerry Mika, Deputy Permanent Representative, UPR of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, 15 November 2022

***Speaking Time: 1-minute 10seconds***

1. Thank you, Mr. President,
2. Namibia warmly welcomes the esteemed delegation of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and thank them for submitting a comprehensive national report as well as for the additional information provided today.
3. Namibia has taken note of the improvements made by the Netherlands in the area of human rights promotion and protection, notwithstanding the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. The renewed approach to discrimination and racism of the Netherlands, including the appointment of a National Coordinator on this subject-matter, is commendable.
4. There, however, remains room for further improvement and in the spirit of constructive dialogue we offer the following recommendations for consideration by the Netherlands:
   1. **Strengthen efforts to combat hate speech and incitement to discrimination or violence on racial, ethnic or religious grounds.**
   2. **Withdraw all interpretative declarations to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.**
5. We wish the delegation of the Netherlands a successful review.
6. I thank you Mr. President.