**UPR 41 - South Africa**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands welcomes South Africa’s engagement in the UPR process.

We note progress made by South Africa since its last UPR, including the ratification of several important UN treaties relevant to immigration detention, including the Convention against Torture, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination.

We encourage continued efforts to protect human rights domestically and recommend South Africa to:

1. provide adequate financial resources to deliver on the outcomes of the National Strategic Plan on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide and to take all necessary measures to develop adequate gender sensitive training programmes for law enforcement agencies, the national prosecuting authority and judicial officers.
2. strengthen protection of HRDs and whistle-blowers and ensure accountability for violence perpetrated against them, in line with the International Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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