**Universal Periodic Review Working Group – 41st Session**

**Universal Periodic Review of The Netherlands**

**Statement by Australia**

**15 November 2022**

Thank you, [President/Vice President]

Australia commends The Netherlands for its long-standing commitment to human rights, including through its Constitution, its domestic legislation and its foreign policy.

We commend The Netherlands for the establishment of a National Coordinator against Discrimination and Racism and the formulation of a national program to develop targeted actions.

Australia recommends that The Netherlands**:**

1. **Take concrete steps to eliminate differences in human rights protection and welfare levels between the European and Caribbean Netherlands.**
2. **Ensure that the National Coordinator has all necessary institutional support to develop and implement the national program in a manner consistent with The Netherlands’ international obligations.**
3. **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.**

**[118 words]**