**42nd Cycle Universal Periodic Review**

**Guatemala**

***Statement by Portugal***

*Speaking time – 1’45’’*

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President,

Portugal welcomes the delegation of Guatemala and wishes it a successful review.

Portugal commends Guatemala for establishing special prosecutors’ offices within the Prosecution Service to deal with the crimes of human trafficking and femicide and for ensuring free, universal birth registration, particularly to those persons living in vulnerable communities.

Portugal **recommends** that Guatemala:

1. with a view to combating poverty and inequalities, including among women employed in the informal sector, implements a non-contributory welfare benefit for all persons living in situation of extreme poverty.
2. takes decisive action to address the high number of violence and deaths in the context of organized crime and ensures prompt, effective, independent and impartial investigations into complaints; prosecute and punish perpetrators; provides victims with appropriate redress; establishes stricter control over firearms possession.
3. signs and ratifies the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Thank you.

*151 words*