**Universal Periodic Review 42 - Argentina**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks the delegation of the Argentine Republic for the presentation of its national report.

We commend the Government for legalizing abortion, thereby taking an important step towards improving the enjoyment of sexual and reproductive health and rights in the country.

The Netherlands also applauds Argentina for taking a leading role in advancing the rights of LGBTIQ+ persons including through the adoption of progressive legislation such as the Labor Inclusion Bill for trans people, and the organization of the 2022 Equal Rights Coalition Conference.

The Netherlands is, however, concerned about complaints of the excessive use of force by security forces and the police, especially in correctional institutions and in the context of repressing protests. The lack of effective investigations into these complaints promotes impunity.

The Netherlands recommends Argentina to:

1. Further operationalize the national mechanism to prevent torture, especially at the provincial level.

2. Ensure the effective implementation of the Voluntary Interruption of Pregnancy Bill, including by providing the necessary infrastructure and funding, and by facilitating training of health care professionals.

The Netherlands wishes Argentina every success with the follow-up and implementation of all accepted recommendations it receives during this fourth UPR cycle.

Thank you, Mister President.