**Universal Periodic Review 41– Ghana**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands **commends** the Republic of Ghana for supporting the NGO-led Justice for All programme, which expedited judicial review for pre-trial prisoners, thereby significantly reducing overcrowding in prisons.

We are concerned about the introduction into Parliament of the Promotion of Proper Human Sexual Rights and Ghanaian Family Values Bill which, if adopted in its current form, would severely violate fundamental human rights of all Ghanaians, including LGBTIQ+ persons.

The Netherlands **recommends** Ghana to:

1. Protect all individuals from any violence or discrimination on the basis of their sexual orientation and gender identity, in conformity with the country’s international obligations.
2. Accelerate the adoption and implementation of laws prohibiting harmful practices against women and girls, including early and forced marriage, accusations of witchcraft ands well as guaranteeing the protection and rehabilitation of victims.

Thank you.

[1m05]