**Universal Periodic Review 42 – Republic of Korea**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Mister President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands compliments the Republic of Korea with their substantial efforts in promoting and respecting human rights. We value your efforts and commitment to uphold the existing human rights instruments.

Nonetheless, we remain worried about persisting forms of discrimination and violence, including in the online space. LGBTQI+ persons in the Republic of Korea still suffer from daily widespread discrimination, violence and hate speech.

The Netherlands **recommends** the Government of the Republic of Korea to:

1. Develop the Government Strategy for enacting the Equality Act and pass the comprehensive Equality Act, to establish policies to eliminate discrimination and social prejudices against sexual minorities.
2. Promote gender equality by eliminating the drivers of discrimination against women and girls, such as harmful gender stereotypes, and by establishing a comprehensive inter-agency mechanism to create an enabling environment for them to access justice.

We wish you success with the follow-up of all recommendations.