

*Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève*

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| **UPR – RoK**  ***Belgian intervention***  26 January 2023 |

President,

Belgium wishes to congratulate the Republic of Korea with the decriminalization of abortion in 2021. However, Belgium is convinced that more progress can be achieved with regards to gender inequality and anti-discrimination and recommends the government to:

**R1.** Enact comprehensive and enforceable anti-discrimination legislation prohibiting discrimination based on, amongst others, race, sexual orientation, gender identity and sex characteristics.

**R2.** Reform the Criminal Act to ensure universal access to safe and legal abortion.

As a strong opponent of the death penalty, Belgium recommends the Republic of Korea to:

**R3.** Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.

Thank you, President.