**Universal Periodic Review 30 – Cabo Verde**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Thank you Mr. President.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks Cabo Verde for its comprehensive report.

We welcome the fact that Cabo Verde has issued a standing invitation to the Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council. We also welcome efforts undertaken by the government to ensure adequate access to reproductive health and rights services.

The Netherlands recommends Cabo Verde to:

1. Firstly, strengthen and fully implement existing legislation and action plans aimed at eliminating all forms of gender based violence by ensuring that reports of domestic and sexual violence are more effectively investigated, and
2. To step up efforts to combat trafficking in persons by adopting comprehensive legislation prohibiting and criminalizing trafficking in persons, including trafficking of women and girls for the purposes of exploitation in prostitution and domestic servitude.

We share concerns expressed by CEDAW about the persistence of violence against women. As noted by the Committee against Torture, many cases of violence against children remain unreported because often the perpetrators are relatives of the victims.

Lastly, we are concerned about prison conditions and would welcome additional steps to improve the circumstances for detainees.

We sincerely thank the delegation from Cabo Verde for taking our recommendations into consideration and wish Cabo Verde all the success in its UPR.

Thank you, Mr. President.