**Universal Periodic Review 30 – Colombia**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands**

Thank you, Mr President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands compliments the Republic of Colombia on the successful demobilization and disarmament of FARC, which is an important step to end the armed conflict that lasted more than five decades.

The Peace Agreement with FARC is bold and ambitious, but many challenges are hampering its full implementation. The presence of other illegally armed groups leads to continued insecurity.

The Netherlands therefore wishes to make two recommendations:

1. Firstly, the Netherlands recommends that the Republic of Colombia takes further measures to *prevent* systematic violence against local leaders and human rights defenders, improve individual and collective protection of those at risk, and focus on investigating and prosecuting the intellectual authors of the threats and killings.
2. Secondly, the Kingdom of the Netherlands recommends the Republic of Colombia to continue to guarantee the sufficient funding of the Special Jurisdiction for Peace, the Truth Commission and the Special Unit for Finding Missing Persons for the duration of its mandate and guarantee the conditions that enable them to operate independently.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands calls up on all actors in the armed conflict to actively participate in the Integral System.

Finally, the Netherlands wishes the government of Colombia every success with the implementation, reporting and follow-up of all the UPR recommendations that it receives during this third UPR cycle.

Thank you, Mr President.