**Universal Periodic Review 31 – Senegal**
**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands - 5 November 2018**

Mr. President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks the delegation of Senegal for the presentation of its national report.

The Netherlands compliments Senegal on its efforts to improve women’s access to safe abortion and on its alignment of national laws with the Maputo Protocol. However, the intended harmonization has not yet been put into practice. Therefore, still too many women suffer from a lack of access to safe abortion. It is vital that Senegal now quickly moves forward in harmonizing its laws to the Maputo Protocol.

Senegal’s efforts to combat discrimination are commendable. However, non-discrimination is a constitutional right that should count for all Senegalese, including LGBTIs.

The Netherlands therefore recommends Senegal:

1. To harmonize its laws on abortion with the provisions of the Maputo Protocol as soon as possible and to legalize medical abortions in cases of rape and incest.
2. To change Article 319 of the Penal Code and to no longer discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

The Netherlands wishes Senegal 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.