**Universal Periodic Review 32 – Yemen**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands** **– 23 January 2019**

Thank you, Mr President,

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

The Netherlands congratulates the government of Yemen with the conclusion of the Stockholm Agreement as an essential first step towards restoring security and stability.

The Netherlands remains concerned by the humanitarian situation in Yemen and the access restrictions faced by staff of aid and relief agencies.

The Netherlands **recommends** Yemen, in line with SDG 16:

1. To ensure the independence of the National Commission of Inquiry and to continue to grant full access to the Group of International and Regional Eminent Experts, with a view to ensure that perpetrators of the most serious crimes are held accountable, as part of a future reconciliation and transitional justice framework in conformity with international standards.
2. To promote and protect equal rights of women, stimulating female leadership, including by guaranteeing a 30% participation rate of women in political consultations and peace talks, in line with SDG 5 and the UNSC Presidential Statement 2017/7 of June 15th 2017.

The Netherlands wishes Yemen success with the follow-up of all recommendations it receives during this third UPR cycle.

Thank you, Mr President.