Statement of Portugal

33rd session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group

**Dominica**

Mr. President,

Portugal welcomes the delegation of the Dominica and the progress made by the country in this field of human rights.

Portugal strongly welcomes the fact that that since the last review, the Government of Dominica has been working towards enacting legislation to protect children, namely through childcare and protection, adoption, juvenile justice, amongst others. The same effort has been enacted towards updating Dominica’s National Policy and Action Plan for Gender Equality and we recommend that it is swiftly finalized. We recommend that efforts to establish a national institution for the promotion and protection of human rights are intensified.

We recommend that Dominica follows the de facto moratorium on the death penalty by its abolition.

We reiterate the recommendation that Dominica ratifies the following instruments:

1. The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or degrading Treatment and its Optional Protocol;
2. Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;

Thank you Mr. President.