**Universal Periodic Review 33 – Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK)**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands** **– May 9, 2019**

Mr President,

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

The Netherlands commends the government of the DPRK for its recent engagement with international human rights mechanisms.

However, The Netherlands remains deeply concerned about the alarming overall human rights situation in the DPRK. We urge DPRK to grant immediate and unrestricted access to international humanitarian agencies to all parts of the DPRK to ensure aid can be distributed to those most in need.

The Netherlands **recommends** the DPRK:

1. To take immediate and effective action to stop the use of torture and other ill-treatment of detainees in political prison camps and other detention facilities, in line with SDG 16.
2. To redirect its public spending in order to fulfil the right of all people in the DPRK to a standard of living adequate for their health and well-being, in line with SDG 1, 2 and 3.

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

Thank you, Mr President.