**Universal Periodic Review 33 – Portugal**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands** **– 8 May 2019**

Mr President,

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

The Netherlands congratulates the government of Portugal with its continuous efforts to promote and protect the rights of minorities, especially with regard to the Roma community. However, we are concerned about the possibility of marriage at the age of 16 which threatens the full enjoyment of human rights by girls, in particular Roma girls.

Moreover, despite the efforts the Portuguese government is taking to prevent violence against women, the Netherlands remains concerned about the high number of female victims of domestic violence in Portugal.

The Netherlands **recommends** Portugal:

1. To increase the legal age of marriage from 16 to 18, in line with SDG’s 5 and 16;
2. To adopt an action plan aimed at decreasing the high number of female victims of domestic violence in Portugal, in line with SDG 5.

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

Thank you Mr President