**8 May 2019**

**33rd Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Portugal**

**Statement by AUSTRIA**

Austria the delegation of Portugal to the UPR and thanks them for their national report and presentation.

Austria commends the numerous efforts undertaken by the Portuguese government in recent years, especially concerning legislation regarding gender equality, as well as regarding the prevention of and the fight against racial discrimination. Although progress has been made, recent incidents have shown that the implementation of legislative measures, in particular by the security forces, can be improved.

Austria would therefore like to offer the following recommendations:

* Continue to strengthen the training provided to law-enforcement and other public officials on the prevention of racial discrimination and domestic violence.
* Step up measures to increase access to specialised psychosocial and legal support in court proceedings for all victims of violence against women, including by promoting and supporting the role of specialist organisations;
* And finally take measures to prevent overcrowding in prisons and ensure full implementation of the UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (Nelson Mandela Rules);