

**Statement by**

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**Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations Office**

**and Other International Organisations at Geneva**

**at the Review of the Kingdom Norway**

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Thank you Mr. President.

The delegation of Barbados welcomes the delegation of Norway.

We congratulate the Government of Norway for its promotion of human rights, as expressed, for instance, in the freedom of the press. The subsidised support by the Government of Norway, for the majority of newspapers, although private and partisan, continues to promote political pluralism and the strengthening of democracy.

We note with interest, developments in the area of ‘ethnicity, religion and belief’. For instance, we view the establishment of a forum on ethnic discrimination as an innovative approach to tackling racism and xenophobia.

In the spirit of constructive engagement, we offer the following recommendations to the delegation of Norway:

1. continue to develop indicators for monitoring and protecting the equality and rights of ethnic minorities;
2. strengthen systems to prevent and proscribe racism and anti-Semitism; and
3. ensure the equal protection of religious and belief communities under law.

We wish the delegation of Norway a successful review.

**END**