

STATEMENT by Ellen Aabø

**34th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Angola**

 **7 November 2019**

*Check against delivery*

President,

Norway commends Angola’s progress towards a more open and democratic society [since the last review. The new government has made significant efforts to strengthen human rights though the legal and policy frameworks, [including a new Penal Code, ratification of key human rights conventions and the upcoming National Human Rights Strategy.] Norway appreciates our close collaboration with Angola, [which aims to promote human rights and sustainable development.]

Norway recommends that Angola:

1. Take concrete steps to make independent media accessible nationwide, including by reducing the cost of broadcasting licenses.
2. Ensure effective countrywide implementation of the Law on Domestic Violence and continues to strengthen women's rights countrywide.
3. Develop a National Action Plan for the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and continues to consider joining the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.
4. Put in place institutional mechanisms that can effectively protect LGBTI-persons against all forms of violence, harassment and discrimination.
5. Guarantee equal access to justice for all, by taking concrete measures to strengthen institutional mechanisms.

Thank you.