**Universal Periodic Review 34 – (Plurinational State of Bolivia)**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands – (5 November 2019)**

Thank you, Mr Vice President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks the delegation of the Plurinational State of Bolivia for the presentation of its national report.

The Netherlands welcomes Bolivia’s commitments to protect human rights and to strengthen accountability in cases of human rights violations, as demonstrated by the establishment of a Truth Commission.

However, the Netherlands is concerned about the recent unrest in Bolivia following the presidential elections. It is of utmost importance to uphold democratic values and guarantee a strong rule of law and judicial independence.

Furthermore, the Netherlands remains concerned about the high prevalence of violence against women and girls in Bolivia and the lack of access to justice for victims, despite previous recommendations.

The Netherlands therefore **recommends** Bolivia to:

1. Adopt measures to improve the safeguarding of the rule of law, by ensuring the independency and transparency of the Constitutional Tribunal and the Supreme Court, in accordance with international human rights standards and in line with SDG 16.

2. Allocate sufficient resources to strengthen the capacity of the justice system to respond to victims of violence against women and girls to ensure effective investigations and combat the high level of impunity in this field, in line with SDG 5.

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

Thank you, Mr Vice President