**Universal Periodic Review 35 – Kiribati**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands** **– 28 January 2020**

Thank you, Madam President,

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

The Netherlands commends the government of Kiribati with their accession to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

The Netherlands remains concerned about the high level of domestic, sexual and gender based violence in Kiribati and about the persistent stigmatization of the LGBTI community.

For that reason, the Netherlands **recommends** Kiribati to:

1. Revise the Family Life Education curriculum to bring it in line with the United Nations technical guidelines regarding comprehensive sexuality education and ensure full integration of the curriculum across the school system.
2. Decriminalise homosexuality and consensual same-sex relations between adults.

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

Thank you, Madam President.