**Universal Periodic Review 36 – USA**

**Statement by the Kingdom of the Netherlands – 9 November 2020**

Madam President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands thanks the delegation of The United States of America for the presentation of its national report.

The Netherlands recommends USA:

1. To repeal the Helms Amendment and the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance Policy and, in the interim, allow U.S. foreign assistance to at a minimum be used for safe abortion in the cases of rape, incest, and life endangerment.
2. And to take all necessary steps to work towards an immediate moratorium on execution of the death penalty, with a view to a complete abolishment, in line with international human rights standards such as the right to live.

The Netherlands wishes USA success with the implementation of the recommendations it receives during this third UPR cycle.

The Netherlands hopes that the United States of America will reconsider its decision and rejoin the Human Rights Council.

I thank you, Madam President.