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THE NETHERLANDS under UPR/UPR 13th Session
(Geneva, 21.05-04.06.12)

Questions-Recommendations by Greece

Thank you Madame President

Greece would like to welcome the delegation of the Netherlands to the 13th session of the UPR Working Group. We note with appreciation that the country has made a successful effort to implement most recommendations submitted during the first cycle.

We have the following questions and recommendations.

1. We would like to convey our satisfaction for the fact that the Netherlands is at the forefront for the promotion and protection of women's rights. However, women in the Netherlands still earn less than men. How does the Dutch Government intend to tackle this issue? We recommend that the Netherlands pursue an active and strict policy to end unfair pay differences between men and women especially in government organisations.
2. We take note of reports regarding the issue of preventive body searches. We recommend that the Netherlands ensure that in its application of preventive body searches, all relevant human rights are adequately protected, in particular the right to privacy and physical integrity and the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of race and religion.
3. Finally, the Netherlands, along with most EU countries, including my own, faces difficulties relating to the high number of irregular migrants and asylum-seekers entering the country. It is important for all countries to apply the standards of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture concerning the treatment of migrants in detention centres. In this context, we would like to have more information as to the way detention centres function in the Netherlands.

Thank you Madame President