

HRC Review / OEWG2 / Statement by the Netherlands

Mr. President,

I would like to align myself with the statement made by Hungary on behalf of the European Union. We have carefully studied the compilation document that was presented last week and would like to share with you our comments.

Mr. President.

My delegation is convinced this Review should result in strengthening the means with which the Council can address emergency situations. Unfortunately, there are currently no proposals in the compilation document to this effect. We note the proposal on the ability of the High Commissioner to bring emergency situations to the Council's attention, and we are convinced that a strengthened version of this proposal would enhance the ability of the Council to perform its important duties. This also requires that the Programme of Work is more flexible and that during the three UPR adoption sessions we are not limited to merely discussing UPR reports, but that these allow us to discuss situations that

require the Council's attention and receive briefings by the High Commissioner.

The Netherlands believes that the UPR is an important and successful mechanism of the Council. To build on the success of the UPR, it is essential that we maintain a four year cycle. We value the universality of the UPR and are convinced that this has to be reflected in the participation in the working group. A solution to the current problems with the list of speakers therefore has to be part of the outcome of this Review, and we support the recent proposal that was made by the Bureau in this regard. To ensure the effectiveness of the UPR, it is crucial that the State under Review gives its clear views on all received recommendations and motivates its decision to either accept or reject a recommendation.

In conclusion, we welcome the proposals that increase the professionalism of the selection process for Special Procedure mandate holders and the reaffirmation of their importance, integrity and independence.

Thank you mr. President