

KNL statement IAD President HRC – 2 November 2022

Thank you chair,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands aligns itself with the EU statement.

The Netherlands thanks the President of the Human Rights Council, mr. Villegas for the presentation of the report, covering the last council sessions and work of the Human Rights Council.

The OHCHR and its instruments, the council sessions, Special Procedures, UPR, and investigative and accountability mechanisms are crucial for the promotion and protection of human rights.

The Netherlands is a firm supporter of the Human Rights Council and a current member. We believe that human rights are fundamental for peace, justice and development.

Respect for human rights encompasses fostering a culture of accountability and justice for victims and survivors of human rights violations.

Reach out. It is of utmost important that the voices of civil society are heard and members of civil society are represented during the Human Rights Council sessions without fear for reprisals or harassment.

Respond. The Netherlands underlines that membership of this Council is not a free ride. Elected members of this Council have a responsibility to respect the highest standards while promoting and protecting human rights, and to respond to situations of concern.

President,

How can we ensure free and safe access for civil society organizations and human rights defenders to the Human Rights Council?

Thank you.