

**UPR INTERVENTION FOR DENMARK**

**Wednesday 21 September 2011**

**LBL, ILGA Europe, COC Netherlands**

Delivered by Björn van Roozendaal

Mr. President,

We take note of stakeholders' submissions to the UPR process of Denmark in which has been indicated that Denmark requires hormonal or surgical sex reassignment before legal recognition of gender identity is possible. This practice breaches the right to privacy as well as the right to health. The Human Rights Commissioner of the Council of Europe holds the view that such laws need to be abolished. We recommend Denmark to take the necessary steps to abolish these existing requirements.

Gender identity is currently not explicitly included as ground for discrimination in existing anti-discrimination legislation. We encourage Denmark to include gender identity explicitly in its anti-discrimination legislation.

Finally, we strongly urge Denmark to consider applying the *Yogyakarta Principles on the Application of International Human Rights Law in relation to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity* as a guide to assist in policy development.

Thank you Mr President.