

**United Nations Human Right Council 12<sup>th</sup> Session**  
**Geneva, September 2009.**  
**UPR Monaco – COC Netherlands**

Mr President,

I have the honour to present a statement on behalf of the International Lesbian and Gay Association of Europe and COC Netherlands.

We would like to commend Monaco for accepting the working group recommendation to use public awareness raising campaigns to prevent discrimination, including on grounds of sexual orientation. Such campaigns can support the important 2005 law which punishes incitement to hatred and violence on grounds of race, nationality, religion or sexual orientation. Whilst developing such campaigns, we urge the government to:

- Take into account specific issues that relate to each discrimination ground and amongst the other grounds specifically address discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation as well as gender identity;
- Clarify the means by which such campaigns will be developed, and;
- Include civil society stakeholders in the development, execution and evaluation of such campaigns.

In developing such campaigns, and to further advance the cause of enhancing equality and non-discrimination of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, we suggest that Monaco uses the *Yogyakarta Principles on the application of international human rights law in relation to sexual orientation and gender identity* as guidance.

Finally, in furtherance of its UPR commitments, we would encourage Monaco to join the rest of the Western Group in endorsing the joint statement on human rights, sexual orientation and gender identity, that was delivered to the UN General Assembly on December 18, 2008 on behalf of 67 States from all geographic regions, including 22 Members of this Human Rights Council.

Thank you Mr President.