



March 17, 2011

UN Human Rights Council
Sixteenth session, 28 February – 25 March 2011

Consideration of UPR reports
LEBANON

Mr. President,

Suedwind welcomes Lebanon's willingness to discuss Human Rights.

We took notice of Lebanon's ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in 2008, and welcome it, but we regret that until this day the unofficial moratorium on the death penalty hasn't been turned into a legally binding framework. At least 42 people are on death row and experience permanent uncertainty unless Lebanon abolishes capital punishment immediately. Furthermore, we urge Lebanon to no longer abstain from votes on the global *moratorium on the use of the death penalty* in the General Assembly - as is their current practise.

Mr. President,

Suedwind works towards equal treatment of men and women around the globe and is therefore opposed to the discriminatory provisions regarding marriage, divorce, parenting and inheritance contained in Lebanon's multiple personal status codes. We regret that it is still not possible for mothers to pass their nationality to children except in very specific circumstances. Discrimination in nationality rights against children born to Lebanese mothers and fathers with other nationalities is the underlying cause for obstacles in accessing basic rights such as the right to education.

Suedwind therefore recommends lifting all reservations to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women and to sign and ratify the Optional Protocol of CEDAW.

Thank you, Mr. President