

**39<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council – Item 6 – UPR Outcomes Uzbekistan  
Statement by COC Nederland - Federatie van Nederlandse Verenigingen tot Integratie  
van Homoseksualiteit, Joined by International Lesbian and Gay Association**

**Delivered by Cavid Nabiyev**

Mr President,

On behalf of the Central Asian Gender and Sexuality Advocacy Network (CAGSAN) we urge the Government of Uzbekistan to rethink its position on violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Even though Uzbekistan has accepted one recommendation made by Honduras, by which it commits to taking into account sexual orientation and gender identity in combating domestic violence, 11 other SOGI-related recommendations have been noted.

Mr. President,

We express our grave concern on the alarming situation faced by LGBT people in Uzbekistan. Criminal Code article 120 provides official grounds for arresting people having same sex sexual conduct, upon 3 years imprisonment. This article also applies to lesbian, bisexual and transgender women. With this criminal code, and without any anti-discriminations laws and policies in place, LGBT people are regularly falling victim to violence, bullying, extortion, arbitrary detention and torture by both state and non-state actors.

We urge the government of Uzbekistan to take all necessary measures to protect LGBT people from violence and discrimination, by decriminalizing same-sex conduct, and introduce anti-discrimination laws and policies that include sexual orientation and gender identity.

I thank you, Mr. President.