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UPR INTERVENTION FOR SPAIN Tuesday 21 September 2010 ILGA Europe & COC Netherlands

Delivered by Björn van Roozendaal

Mr. President,

We commend Spain for accepting recommendation 84.2 to provide training to police, prison and judicial staff, focused on the protection of human rights of women, children, ethnic or national minorities and persons of minority sexual orientation or gender identity, as was recommended by the Czech Republic.

In relation to this recommendation we ask the delegation of Spain:

- To specifically inform the Human Rights Council about what means are proposed to develop this training;
- To include civil society organisations in the development, execution and evaluation of such trainings.

During the working group process Sweden raised questions about measures whereby Spain would implement legislation granting refugee status on the basis of fear of persecution based on gender or sexual orientation. We would like to encourage Spain to implement such legislation.

We wish to recognize the positive steps that Spain has taken in the past years to counter discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. In this light we would specifically like to encourage Spain to continue raising awareness on issues around gender identity and human rights, and thus bring forward the work that Spain undertook by organising the International Congress on Gender Identity and Human Rights, that took place in Barcelona earlier this year.

We encourage Spain to share best practices in this field with other countries. Finally, we ask whether Spain would 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.