



## REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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# PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN SWITZERLAND

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Tel: + 41 22 7330220  
Fax: + 41 22 734 4907  
Email: [info@missionofnamibia.ch](mailto:info@missionofnamibia.ch)

Chemin Louis Dunant, 15  
CH -1202, Geneva

### Statement by Namibia

#### UPR of Benin, 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, 25 October 2012

Madame President,

Namibia warmly welcomes the delegation from the Republic of Benin to the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council Working Group on the UPR.

Namibia enjoys cordial bilateral relations with the Republic of Benin and welcomes the Government's decision to abolish the death penalty. This serves as an example to many countries that have not yet done so to follow suit. As a developing country, Benin faces challenges in improving the lives of its people, but with policies such as its Vision 2025, Benin is putting in place robust mechanisms to address social and economic inequalities. There have therefore been improvements in the health, education and water supply sectors, amongst others.

Madame President,

My delegation would like to make the following recommendations to the Government of Benin:

1. Consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities;
2. Consider enacting specific legislation prohibiting and punishing violence against children.

I thank you Madame President.