

**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF  
GHANA AT THE 14<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC  
REVIEW**

(23 OCTOBER 2012, GENEVA)

Madam President,

1. Botswana warmly welcomes the Delegation of Ghana to the second cycle of the review of their country.
2. We commend the Government of Ghana for its comprehensive national report, and their efforts in implementing most of the recommendations made during their review at the first cycle. This is a clear demonstration of their commitment to the UPR process, and to the promotion and protection of human rights in general.
3. Botswana notes with appreciation the improvements in institutional capacities and governance. One of the notable efforts is the country's recent Constitutional Review.
4. We also applaud Ghana for the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities; and for coming up with laws that address the gender equality on matters relating to property inheritance, particularly the Property Rights of Spouse Bill, which is currently before Parliament.

5. Ghana has also made a significant improvement in birth registration, which has increased from 30 percent to 60 percent over the past ten years. We however, observe that more remains to be done with respect to children born in poor families due to lack of information and high costs of registration.

6. We therefore recommend that Ghana should intensify its efforts to address this problem since lack of birth registration makes these children vulnerable to other human rights violations, including human trafficking.

7. Finally, we wish Ghana a successful review and adoption of their report.

8. I thank you!