

STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF KOREA AT THE 14TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

(25 OCTOBER 2012, GENEVA)

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Madam President,

- 1. Botswana warmly welcomes the Delegation of Korea to the second cycle of the review of their country and wish to thank them for the comprehensive national report.
- 2. We commend Korea for the legislative and institutional developments they have undertaken since their first review. These among others include; the withdrawal of reservations of article 9 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which grants children the right to maintain personal relations and contact with both parents; and the development of policies aimed at promoting and protecting human rights and welfare of the people with disabilities.
- 3. We however note the concerns raised by the Committee on the Rights of the Child regarding the multiple forms of discrimination that continued to persist, including those against children from multicultural or migrant backgrounds or who came from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; refugee children; and children with disabilities.

- 4. In view of this, Botswana makes the following recommendations in line with the UNHCR and CRC respectively, that;
 - The Government of Korea promote the local integration of refuges, asylum seekers, and humanitarian status holders by extending multicultural programmes to them;
 - The Government of Korea take appropriate measures to prevent sexual violence against children and make more efforts to effectively prosecute the sexual exploitation of children.
- 5. Finally, we wish Korea a successful review and adoption of their report.
- 6. I thank you!