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

(29 OCTOBER 2012, GENEVA)

1. Madam President, Botswana warmly welcomes the Delegation of Switzerland to the second cycle of the review of their country, and thanks them for a comprehensive national report.
2. Switzerland is one of the countries that have demonstrated a high level of commitment to the improvement and fulfilment of the human rights obligations, both at home and abroad.
3. The level of implementation of the recommendations from their review in the first cycle is evident of the country's commitment, not only to the UPR process, but to the betterment of the human rights standards of the people living in Switzerland.
4. We particularly commend Switzerland for ratifying some treaties that were part of the recommendations from the first cycle, namely: the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women; and the Optional

Protocol to the Convention against Torture. We are satisfied with progress being made towards ratification of the remaining treaties.

5. We also commend Switzerland for establishing the Swiss Resource Centre for Human Rights mid-last year. However, my delegation is interested in finding out whether at the end of the five years of the project, Switzerland intends to transform the Resource Centre into a fully fledged National Human Rights Institution.

6. Finally, we wish Switzerland a successful review and adoption of their report.

7. I thank you!