



## REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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

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#### Statement by Namibia

#### UPR of Switzerland, 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, 29 October 2012

Madame President,

Namibia warmly welcomes the delegation of Switzerland to the 14<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council Working Group on the UPR. My delegation commends Switzerland for its commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights, for its nationals and foreigners living in Switzerland. Amongst other things, Switzerland has put in place an anti-poverty Strategy aimed at reducing the scale of poverty in the country and improving the situation of those affected. Switzerland also has high life expectancy and an efficient health system. Namibia notes with appreciation that Switzerland has increased its ODA from 0.4 to 0.5 percent of its gross national income.

My delegation further notes that although health insurance is compulsory for all persons residing in Switzerland, it is not partial. Namibia therefore recommends to Switzerland to establish a more equitable healthcare system as women pay higher fees for insurance than men.

My delegation further recommends that Switzerland.

2. Ensure that freedom of expression is without unnecessary restrictions to ensure freedom of religion.
3. Provide adequate accommodation for refugees and asylum seekers and their children, away from unhealthy locations such as near airports.

I thank you Madame President.