



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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Statement by Mr. <u>Absalom Nghifitikeko</u>, First Secretary UPR of Barbados, 15th Session of the Human Rights Council Working Group on the UPR, 25 January 2013

Madame President,

Namibia takes this opportunity to warmly welcome the delegation of Barbados to the 15th Session of the UPR.

Namibia would like to commend Barbados for its strong action to criminalise trafficking in persons through the enactment of the Transnational Organised Crime (Prevention and Control) Act in February 2011, as well as signing the Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons especially Women and Children. Namibia further commends Barbados for its proactive engagement in environmental issues, particularly on climate change. Namibia is also pleased to note that Barbados continues to enjoy a very high Human Development Index, although poverty still poses a great challenge. Namibia would therefore like to know what the Government of Barbados' plans are to expand the Identification, Stabilisation, Enablement and Empowerment (ISEE) Bridge programme.

Madame President, Namibia recommends that

- 1. Barbados consider abolishing the death penalty as it negates the right to life and since it has not been in use in Barbados for over 30 years.
- 2. That Barbados consider establishing a Wages Commission on Domestic Workers.
- 3. Namibia further recommends to the Government of Barbados to consider ratifying the Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons, as well as the Convention on the Rights of Peoples with Disabilities.

I thank you Madame President.