



**SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND  
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

**STATEMENT BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION DURING THE 15<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE  
WORKING GROUP ON THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**25 JANUARY 2013**

**PALAIS DES NATIONS**

**REVIEW OF THE BARBADOS**

*Check against delivery*

Mr President,

South Africa extends a warm welcome to the delegation of Barbados and thanks the delegation for the presentation of its national report and the update provided on the human rights situation in the country. We commend the extensive consultative process undertaken in its preparation and would encourage this to be continued when implementing accepted recommendations from the 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle.

The empowerment of women and the promotion of gender equality by Barbados, through the Bureau of Gender Affairs is commendable. The collaboration between the Ministry of Labour and Social Security and UN Women is an example of positive engagement between the United Nations and a Member State. **South Africa recommends that the Government of Barbados continues to engage with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and other UN agencies to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights within the country.**

Mr President,

The engagement of non-governmental and civil society organisations in the various programmes related to human rights is an approach which should be continued. It is recommended that the engagement with NGOs and civil society should be continued during the implementation of the second cycle accepted recommendations where appropriate.

Finally Mr President,

We wish the Government of Barbados well with the implementation of the accepted recommendations and thank the delegation for the interaction with the working group today.

I thank you.