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MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS OF FINLAND

## 15th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

### Finland's questions and recommendations to Botswana

23 January 2013

Mr. President,

Finland wishes to thank Botswana for the national report and its presentation today.

Finland welcomes Botswana's cooperation with Special Procedures with regard to the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples in 2009. We acknowledge Botswana's efforts to ensure indigenous peoples' access to basic services and encourage the Government to further develop, in consultation with indigenous peoples, the provision of services.

However, Finland is concerned that the rights of indigenous peoples are not realised for most indigenous peoples in Botswana. Finland would be interested in hearing about the measures that Botswana is taking, or intends to take, to implement the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur, and about the situation regarding the recognition of the concept "indigenous peoples" as such.

Moreover, Finland would like to ask Botswana what further measures Botswana intends to take to address the special needs of indigenous children, especially relating to the right of the child to education.

Finland recommends that Botswana adopt effective measures to enhance the participation of indigenous peoples on issues affecting them and their rights as indigenous peoples.

Finland also recommends that Botswana take all appropriate measures, including adequate resource allocation, to strengthen indigenous children's equal access to education, including, when possible, education in their own language.

Thank you.