



**United Nations Human Rights Council
15th Session of the UPR Working Group**

Geneva, 23 January 2013

**German questions and recommendations to
Botswana**

Mister President,

Botswana's National Report is encouraging. We especially commend the efforts made by Botswana to establish an independent human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles and encourage Botswana to take swift action in accordance with the advice of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. We would like to commend the excellent cooperation and commitment of Botswana's delegation here in Geneva.

Germany would like to offer the following recommendations to Botswana:

1. **Germany wishes to repeat its recommendation in the first cycle of the UPR, to amend the definition of discrimination in the Constitution in such a way that it covers discrimination based on descent and abolish those laws that permit discrimination on the basis of ethnicity, language and culture,**
2. **Germany recommends that Botswana take comprehensive action in order to achieve full equality between women and, especially to repeal section 15(4) of the Constitution and to review customary law in order to eliminate discriminatory elements such as an inheritance rule, providing for male-only inheritance of the family home,**
3. **Germany recommends to establish a moratorium on the death penalty, with a view on fully abolishing it, in line with relevant UN General Assembly resolutions,**
4. **Germany further recommends to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol and to opt-in to the inquiry and inter-state mechanisms.**

I thank you Mister President.