

Universal Periodic Review of Botswana

23 January 2013

Intervention by the delegation of Liechtenstein

Liechtenstein welcomes the distinguished delegation of Botswana and wishes to thank for the valuable information provided in the introductory statement and in the national report.

Botswana had accepted, during the first UPR review, the recommendation to incorporate the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into its national legislation. We are therefore concerned that the Children's Act of 2009 fails to prohibit corporal punishment in any setting and on the contrary expressly authorises corporal punishment of children, including as a sentence imposed by the courts. Liechtenstein wishes to **recommend that Botswana review the inconsistencies between the Children's Act of 2009 and its international obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child, such as the prohibition of corporal punishment of children in all settings.**

CEDAW has expressed concern at the unequal status of women in marriage and family owing to customary and traditional practices and at not focusing on women in strategies for poverty reduction. Liechtenstein therefore **recommends that Botswana pay special attention to the needs of rural women and women heads of households, ensuring that they participate in decision-making processes and have full access to justice, education, health services and credit facilities; and eliminate all forms of discrimination against women with respect to ownership and inheritance of land.**

Liechtenstein congratulates Botswana for publically advocating for the ratification of the Kampala amendments to the Rome Statute and its undertaking to ratify the amendments with a view to contributing to the activation of the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court over crime of aggression in the beginning of 2017. **In this regard, Liechtenstein recommends that Botswana complete the process of fully implementing its obligations under the Rome Statute into domestic law, in particular by adopting provisions that allow for full cooperation with the International Criminal Court.**