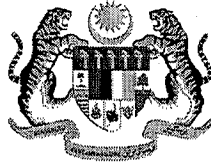


52



(Please check against delivery)

STATEMENT BY MALAYSIA
Review of Botswana
15th Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council
21 January – 1 February 2013

Thank you Mr. President,

Malaysia welcomes the delegation of Botswana, led by H.E. Dikgakgamatso Ramadeluka Seretse to the 15th Session of the UPR Working Group. We thank them for the presentation of its national report.

2. My delegation notes and commends Botswana for the broad consultations involving multiple stakeholders in approaching its UPR exercise. In addition to being party to a significant numbers of international human rights instruments, the Government of Botswana continues to take the necessary domestic legislative measures to implement its domestic and international obligations arising from those treaties.

3. My delegation appreciates Botswana's commitment and involvement in the Human Rights Council that is based on the principles of equality, social harmony, tolerance and non-discrimination. Malaysia notes with appreciation that Botswana has made significant strides and continued efforts in upholding the rights of children, women, minority groups, the disabled and disadvantaged groups in the country. That notwithstanding, my delegation further notes that Botswana continues to face significant challenges particularly on the issue of refugees and on education. Malaysia believes that with a strong will and continued commitment, Botswana would be able to tackle those challenges.

4. In the spirit of constructive engagement and cooperation, my delegation would like to propose the following two recommendations for the consideration of Botswana:

(Please check against delivery)

- 4.1. to continue efforts aimed at enhancing the welfare of peoples with disabilities, including taking the appropriate steps to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and
- 4.2. to continue implementing its national youth development programme as one of the means to alleviate poverty in the country.

I thank you, Mr. President.

GENEVA
23 January 2013