

23 January, 2013

Mr. President,

I would like to thank the delegation of the Republic of Botswana, led by, for the presentation of the national report and for its participation in the review process. Slovakia acknowledges Botswana's commitment to the follow-up of the recommendations received in the first review. Noteworthy is the adoption of the Domestic Violence Act in 2008 and of the New Children's Act in 2009 which set up the National Children's Council. Botswana should also be credited for its progress towards the MDG2 related to the universal primary education as well as MDG7 on ensuring environmental stability, including the access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

Slovakia would like to present Botswana the following recommendations:

1. **To impose a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty entirely**, in line with UN General Assembly resolutions 62/149, 63/168 and 65/206, commuting all death sentences to life imprisonment terms,
2. While welcoming the 2010 Employment Act, prohibiting employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, Slovakia **recommends Botswana to remove relevant articles of the Penal Code criminalising same sex sexual activities**,
3. **To ensure full alignment of its national legislation with all obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.**
4. And last but not least, **to consider ratification of the new third Optional Protocol to CRC on a communication procedure.**

I thank you, Mr. President.

Veronika Kossuthová
PM Slovak republic