



**PERMANENT MISSION OF SLOVENIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA**

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UPR of Botswana

Mr. President,

Slovenia would like to thank the delegation of Botswana for their UPR report and for their presentation today and commitment to the UPR process.

Furthermore we commend the important efforts of Botswana's authorities in compliance with its international obligations regarding human rights. We note that the ongoing consultations on the Office of the Ombudsman are aimed to meet the international standards in accordance with the Paris Principles.

Beside the efforts of Botswana's authorities to improve the human rights situation, there are still some gaps. Children's Act (2009) failed to prohibit corporal punishment in any setting; corporal punishment of children is expressly authorized, also as the sentence imposed by the courts. The Women's Affairs Department located within the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs do not have the authority or capacity to effectively promote implementation of the Convention and support gender mainstreaming across all levels of Government.

My delegation would like to make to the Government of Botswana following recommendations:

1. to prohibit corporal punishment of children;
2. to strengthen The Women's Affairs Department located within the Ministry of Labour and Home Affairs, providing it with authority, decision-making power, and human and financial resources.

Thank you.