

STATEMENT BY H. E. AMBASSADOR J. MANZOU ON THE  
OCCASION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA: 23 JANUARY 2013

Mr President,

The Zimbabwe delegation warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Botswana and highly commends them for a comprehensive report outlining activities that the country has undertaken to effect the recommendations that it accepted during its first cycle review.

These activities include, inter alia, the following:

- The recent establishment of the Small Claims Court system to improve access to justice as well as a Judicial Case Management System to better manage the flow and speedy resolution of cases;
- The enactment of a new Children's Act that incorporates key provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;
- Increased financial support to the Office of the Ombudsman to effectively investigate violations of fundamental rights and freedoms;

- The mainstreaming of human rights in the education system; and
- The establishment of a Co-ordinating Office for People with Disabilities.

From the foregoing, it is clearly evident that Botswana has been steadfastly open and constructive in its effort to fulfil its obligations.

The Zimbabwe delegation wishes to recommend that:

- Botswana should continue to implement agreed recommendations and other domestic and international obligations such as treaty body reporting; and
- Enhance capacity building in its pro-poor and results-based development planning policy and programmes.

Finally, we wish the people of Botswana great success in all their endeavours.

Thank You.