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**Statement by Botswana during the Review of Cape Verde at
the 16th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

(23rd April 2013, Geneva)

Mr. President,

1. Botswana warmly welcomes the delegation of Cape Verde to the second cycle of the review of their country.
2. We commend the Government of Cape Verde for its national report. The positive steps by Cape Verde in implementing the recommendations from the first cycle of the UPR are encouraging.
3. Botswana particularly welcomes Cape Verde's ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
4. While commending Cape Verde for the adoption of the Gender-Based Violence Act in 2011, Botswana would like to find out what remedial measures are in place to reduce domestic violence against women?

5. Botswana also wishes to encourage the Government of Cape Verde to continue its efforts to reduce the high levels of school dropouts, and to reduce infant mortality rates.

6. Botswana has the following two recommendations for Cape Verde:

- i) Continue its efforts towards eliminating negative sexist stereotypes that lead to discrimination against women, both in the public and private life.
- ii) That the international community should heed the country's request for capacity-building and technical assistance in the context of human rights.

I thank you, Mr. President!