**Statement by Botswana (Charles Masole - DPR) during the Review of Germany at the 16th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**(25th April 2013, Geneva)**

1. Mr. President, Botswana warmly welcomes the delegation of Germany, and thanks them for their national report, as well as the comprehensive update they presented this morning.
2. We commend the Government of Germany for its efforts in implementing the recommendations from the first UPR cycle.
3. While noting that some good initiatives have been put in place to address racism and other related intolerances, we still feel that Germany could still do more in this area. We therefore **recommend** that Germany should put in place a comprehensive strategy for dealing with issues of racism and racial discrimination.
4. In addition, we **recommend** that Germany should have an independent body to promptly and thoroughly investigate all allegations of torture and ill-treatment by the police.
5. We also note with particular interest and appreciation the many measures, including policy reforms, put in place in order to improve the human rights situation in Germany. These include the Human Rights Action Plan, the national mechanism for the prevention of torture, and the upcoming national violence against women helpline, among others.

I thank you, Mr. President!