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*Statement by Mr. Absalom Nghifitikeko, First Secretary, Mission of Namibia
UPR of Russia, 16th Session of the Human Rights Council
Working Group on the UPR, 29 April 2013, 14:30-18:00*

Mr. President,

My delegation is taking the floor to welcome the Russian Federation to the UPR Working Group. Namibia commends Russia for ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Peoples with Disabilities, in line with recommendations from its first UPR, in order to strengthen its efforts to address issues affecting people of disabilities. Russia has also signed the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography. It is noteworthy that the Russian Constitutional Court has upheld the ban on the imposition of the death penalty as a form of criminal punishment.

My delegation would like to make the following recommendations to the Russian Federation:

1. Abolish the death penalty.
2. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography.
3. Increase its budget allocation for indigenous communities.

I thank you Mr. President.