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**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF
URUGUAY AT THE 18TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL
PERIODIC REVIEW**

(29 January 2014, Geneva)

1. **Mr. President,** Botswana warmly welcomes the Delegation of Uruguay to their second UPR.

2. We commend Uruguay for accepting many recommendations made during its first UPR. We note with satisfaction efforts made in their implementation. Notable are efforts in implementing recommendations made on Children's rights, sexual exploitation of children, juvenile criminal justice system, and Education.

3. Uruguay has made voluntary pledges and commitments as seen in her UPR, most being in line with the recommendations made at her first review. This is a clear demonstration of the country's commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights. The country's clean record on reporting obligations to treaty bodies is commendable.

4. In spite of efforts made in addressing inequality and discrimination, there are reports of inequalities between men and women, in particular disadvantaged women of African descent. It is in this regard that Botswana recommends that Uruguay strengthen measures to combat discrimination against women and ensure that additional special measures are taken to

effectively empower women, in particular, women of African descent.

5. We commend Uruguay for putting in place measures to combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children.

6. We recommend that Uruguay establish mechanisms for witness protection and access to justice for victims, their families and civil society actors who might be assisting them as recommended by the Special Rapporteur on trafficking.

7. In conclusion, we wish Uruguay success in their review and adoption of their UPR report.

I thank you!