



**STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO VANUATU 2<sup>ND</sup> UPR REPORT BY HE  
MOSES K. MOSE, AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT MISSION OF  
SOLOMON ISLANDS TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS IN GENEVA**

**18<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group of HRC, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2014**

*Check Against Delivery*

**Thank you Mr President**

Solomon Islands warmly welcomes the Vanuatu delegation to the 18<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR Working Group of the Human Rights Council and the presentation of their comprehensive report. As a close Pacific neighbour, we congratulate and commend Vanuatu for their commitment in upholding international human rights values and laws in their country. This is demonstrated in the significant measures taken and achievements made in the recommendations Vanuatu had adopted in their first cycle of UPR in 2009.

In particular, we commend Vanuatu's efforts in formulating and mainstreaming national policies to promote and safeguard the interest and rights of women as enshrined in the UN CEDAW. We also acknowledge measures taken by Vanuatu to promote and protect the interest and rights of persons with disabilities.

In this connection, Solomon Islands makes the following two recommendations;

1. Vanuatu is encouraged to take steps to fully implement its policies and action plans on the rights of women and persons with disabilities; and
2. To engage and involve national parliament in the follow up process and implementation of the accepted recommendations in the 2<sup>nd</sup> UPR report of Vanuatu, as example, by hosting a briefing on the role of Parliament on the UPR process and implementation.

Finally to encourage Vanuatu to work closely with the Human Rights Council and its donor partners in acquiring the necessary resources and technical assistance in the implementation of the accepted recommendations in their UPR report.

Thank you.