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REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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*Statement made by Absalom Nghifitikeko, First Secretary  
UPR of Vietnam, 18<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council  
UN HRC Working Group on the UPR, 5 February 2014, 14:30-18:00*

Mr. Le President,

Namibia warmly welcomes the Viet Nameese delegation, and the submission of its national report which highlights gains the country has made especially in the area of civil and political rights since the first UPR cycle. The national report provides a better understanding of the human rights situation in that country which also indicates the Government's commitment to improving the living conditions of its citizens. Namibia also welcomes the positive development of reducing the number of crimes subject to the death penalty to 21. The decision by the Government of Viet Nam to end the application of the death penalty to children is very commendable.

In this regard, Namibia recommends that the Government of Viet Nam:

1. Continue to work towards reducing the number of crimes subject to the death penalty.
2. Consider putting a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its abolishment.
3. Et finalement, adopt policies that will allow the active involvement of minority communities through consultation and participation in decision making processes relating to areas affecting them, particularly on development issues.

Merci, Mr. Le President.