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## REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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### ***Please Check Against Delivery***

*Statement made by Amb. Sabine Böhlke-Möller, Ambassador/Permanent Representative*

*UPR of Democratic Republic of the Congo, 19<sup>th</sup> Session of the Human Rights Council, UN HRC Working Group on the UPR, 29 April 2014, 09:00-12:30*

Mr. President,

Namibia warmly welcomes H.E. Ms. Mumba Matipa Wivine and her delegation from the Democratic Republic of Congo to this Universal Periodic Review. We thank you for the presentation and for your engagement with the UPR process. Namibia commends the DRC for observing a de facto moratorium on the death penalty and wishes to encourage the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo to develop favourable measures leading to its ultimate suspension.

My delegation congratulates the DRC for strengthening efforts to ensure effective parity and it is our hope that the national gender policy and its plan of action will be fully implemented soon.

My delegation would like to make the following recommendations for the consideration of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo:

1. Enact specific legislation to eradicate all sexual gender-based incidents of violence and punish the perpetrators of sexual violence.
2. Strengthen legal and policy frameworks, programmes and coordination measures to address child labour and sexual exploitation of children.
3. Strengthen policies to ensure free primary education.

We wish you a successful UPR.

I thank you Mr. President

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