

**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF NORWAY
AT THE 19TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

66

(28 April 2014, Geneva)

Mr. President,

1. Botswana sincerely welcomes the Norwegian delegation to their second UPR. We thank them for the informative national report.
2. We note with satisfaction efforts made in implementing recommendations made in 2009. Norway submitted a mid-term report on progress achieved since 2009. We commend them for this initiative, which shows their commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights.
3. Botswana commends Norway for efforts made in combating and preventing domestic violence, including various forms of violence and sexual abuse against children. The introduction of a new action plan against domestic violence and the national strategy to combat violence and sexual abuse against children and young people in the period 2014–2017, is commendable.
4. We note efforts made in addressing discrimination against migrants and asylum seekers in accessing housing and health care services. We encourage that more be done in relation to violence. We note also that challenges of gender mainstreaming

still exist. We recommend that in line with the equality policy, more be done.

5. We also note with satisfaction efforts made in addressing children's rights. In particular, the legislative reforms in the Children's Act giving children under seven years of age an opportunity to be heard in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, is notable.

6. We note that substance abuse by children and young people is high, some of which has resulted in deaths. Botswana reiterates the CRC's recommendation that Norway strengthen its efforts to reduce drug abuse.

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

I thank you!