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REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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Statement by Mrs Gladice Pickering, Legal Attaché, during the Interactive Debates on the Universal Periodic Review of Guinea-Bissau, 23 January 2015, 09h00 – 12h30

Thank you Mr. President,

Namibia welcomes the delegation of Guinea-Bissau to the 21st Session of the UPR. Namibia takes note of the political situation in the country since 2012 and commends the efforts made by the Government of Guinea-Bissau despite the challenges faced as a result.

Namibia commends Guinea-Bissau on the adoption of the law against domestic violence, which is indicated to have been approved by the National Assembly, as well as the National Strategy for Social Protection of Children; Childhood National Plan and wishes Guinea-Bissau success with the implementation of these instruments.

Namibia recommends the following:

1. That Guinea-Bissau considers enacting specific legislation which prohibits discrimination against certain groups of children particularly girls, children with disabilities and children living with HIV/AIDS.
2. That Guinea-Bissau takes all necessary measures to reduce the number of HIV/AIDS infections by means of enhancing national education programmes and to increase efforts to ensure the availability and access to antiretroviral treatment drugs.
3. That Guinea-Bissau increases funding for education; ensure access to education for all children; overcome gender disparities in access to education and improve the educational infrastructure and the quality of education.

We wish Guinea-Bissau all the best during their review.

I thank you Mr. President

All official correspondence should be addressed to the Head of Mission