



**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
TO THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, GENEVA**

**Statement by The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Trinidad and
Tobago at the Universal Periodic Review of the Independent and
Sovereign Republic of Kiribati in the Human Rights Council on 19th
January, 2015**

Thank you Mr. President.

My delegation wishes to commend the delegation of Kiribati for the delivery of their comprehensive report.

As a SIDS member, Trinidad and Tobago is quite pleased that Kiribati has taken the bold, yet necessary step to approve their Environment Policy which identifies key national priorities including climate change and waste management control. We are also encouraged to note that Kiribati is taking further action to preserve, for the benefit of mankind, their first UNESCO World Heritage Site – the Phoenix Islands Protected Area.

As domestic violence is a scourge in many of our small communities, my delegation wishes to acclaim and highlight that recent legislation passed by Kiribati criminalizes such conduct. In addition to this, Kiribati has also taken the initiative to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and a national policy on this subject is currently being drafted.

Conclusion:

In concluding, my delegation would like to make the following recommendations:

1. That Kiribati strengthens its legal and institutional frameworks with respect to the implementation of human rights and the right to water and sanitation.
2. That Kiribati continues its work towards the development of a National Disability Policy and a Child Labour Policy and
3. That measures be taken to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

I thank you Mr. President.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland