



PERMANENT MISSION OF PORTUGAL
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(19 -30 January 2015)

Statement by Portugal

Lesotho

Mr. President,

Portugal welcomes the delegation of Lesotho and thanks it for the presentation of the national UPR report.

Portugal welcomes that Lesotho has one of the highest literacy rates in sub-Saharan Africa and positive results towards the achievement of Millenium Development Goal 2, concerning primary education. Nevertheless, Portugal is concerned about the disadvantage situation of girls concerning access to education, as well as reports on sexual violence and abuses committed in schools and, in this context, recommends Lesotho to take the appropriate measures to address these issues.

Furhermore, Portugal would like to offer the following recommendations to the Government of Lesotho:

- to consider developing Human Rights Indicators as suggested by the OHCHR as an instrument that allows for a more precise and coherent evaluation of national human rights policies;
- to ratify the Second Optional to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, on abolishing the death penalty; the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture; and the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Thank you, Mr President.