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**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF  
JAMAICA AT THE 22<sup>ND</sup> SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC  
REVIEW**

*(13 May 2015, Geneva)*

**Mr. Vice President,**

1. Botswana warmly welcomes the delegation of Jamaica to their second UPR. We thank them for the presentation of their national report.
  
2. We commend Jamaica for the implementation of many recommendations accepted at their last review. In particular, we welcome the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography; and the enactment of laws which address child pornography and child prostitution.
  
3. We note with appreciation measures taken to promote and protect women's rights and ensure gender equality. In addition, measures taken to address gender based violence and representation of women in public and political spheres are also commendable. In that regard, we encourage Jamaica to finalise and fully implement its National Strategic Plan of Action to Eliminate Gender-based Violence (NSPA-GBV).
  
4. In 2013, Jamaica strengthened her Trafficking in Persons (Prevention, Suppression and Punishment) Act, to combat

trafficking in persons. However, we are concerned about reports of inadequate implementation of the Act. In this regard, we encourage Jamaica to step up efforts to combat trafficking of persons, and ensure that all perpetrators of trafficking in persons are brought to justice; and provide adequate protection, reparation and rehabilitation to the victims.

5. We are also concerned about reports of threats, violent assaults and killings of human rights defenders in Jamaica, and that human rights defenders often do not get protection from the Jamaican authorities.

6. Botswana recommends that Jamaica:

a) ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and accede to its Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities;

b) enact and implement laws, policies and measures to recognize and protect human rights defenders, and ensure prompt, thorough and impartial investigation of all violations against them.

7. We wish Jamaica a successful review and adoption of their UPR report.