



**SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
AND
OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

**STATEMENT BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION DURING THE
23RD SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE UNIVERSAL
PERIODIC REVIEW**

REVIEW OF MAURITANIA

03 NOVEMBER 2015

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Mr President,

The South African delegation wishes to warmly welcome the delegation of Mauritania to the 23rd Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review. We congratulate Mauritania on the submission of its national report and also appreciate the update provided during the presentation.

South Africa appreciates that the national report sets out Mauritania's vision for the promotion and protection of the human rights of its citizens, in particular the prioritization of efforts aimed at the eradication of the consequences of slavery and contemporary forms of slavery. We are also encouraged by the fact that the National Human Rights Commission of Mauritania has been classified as A status.

In order to give further impetus to this progress already register, South Africa would like to recommend that Mauritania should:

1. Provide its National Human Rights Commission with the resources it needs, to publicize its recommendations and reinforce its independence;
2. Enforces its anti-slavery legislation which fully guarantees the application of the principle of non-discrimination and to ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights by every member of society; and
3. Ensure nationwide, systematic and regular collection of disaggregated data on all forms of slavery.

Finally, Mr. President, my delegation wishes Mauritania success in their second review.

I thank you.