

Statement by Ambassador Ben Lukwiya (DPR)

Permanent Mission of Uganda

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Review of Mauritania, 3rd November 2015

Mr. President,

Uganda welcomes the delegation of Mauritania and commend the government for continued engagement with the UPR mechanism.

We welcome the successful measures taken to criminalize acts of slavery as a significant step in closing the history of slavery in Africa.

However, significant gaps still exist in the road map for the eradication of the consequences of slavery in terms of providing protection for victims, third party representation of victims in the courts of law as well as placing the burden of proof.

Mr President,

Further efforts are necessary to fully implement this road map and Uganda recommends the following:

- Government to fast track the review of the Anti-Slavery Act to provide for victims' representation, protection and support.
- Abolish the caste system that continues to promote de facto slavery through domestic servitude and bondage or forced labour.
- Expand public awareness campaigns to cover effectively all forms of slavery.
- Undertake training of the police, administrative and judicial authorities to ensure efficient follow up of cases of slavery.

I thank you.