

MISSÃO PERMANENTE DA
REPÚBLICA DE MOÇAMBIQUE
JUNTO DAS NAÇÕES UNIDAS

GENÈBRA



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

TO THE UNITED NATIONS

GENÈVA

Statement by H.E. Pedro Comissário, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Mozambique to the United Nations Office in Geneva and other International Organizations, at the 23rd Session of the UPR Working Group on Mauritania

Geneva, 3rd November 2015

Mr President!

From the outset, I congratulate HE **Brahim Ould Daddah**, Minister of Justice of Mauritania, and his delegation for the submission of the comprehensive report to their country's second Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

I stress the fact that the report reflects, in detail, the activities undertaken by Mauritania in the implementation of the previous UPR recommendations, amongst other achievements.

I take note of the fact that the new Constitution, adopted in 2012, led to improvements in the regulatory and institutional framework for the promotion and protection of Human Rights, with special focus on the definition of slavery and torture as crimes against humanity.

In the realm of Human Rights Instruments Mauritania acceded in 2012, to the (i) International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from enforced Disappearance, (ii) Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and (iii) Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability and its Optional Protocol.

The country has managed to submit reports to the Committee Against Torture, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Human Rights Committee and to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.

In the context of the standing invitation to the special mandate holders, Mauritania welcomed the Special Rapporteur on the contemporary Forms of Slavery and the Special Rapporteur on the contemporary Forms of Racism, Racial Discrimination and Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.

It is my understanding that the above mentioned achievements are conducive to the betterment of enjoyment of human rights by the Mauritanian people, for which the country should be praised.

Meanwhile, Mauritania still faced challenges, in the implementation of the recommendations of the 1st UPR Cycle, inter alia on the action plan to combat trafficking in persons as well as on the adoption of legislation pertaining to female genital mutilation, as indicated in the report.

In this vain, I highly encourage Mauritania to redouble its efforts in addressing those challenges, with the support of the country representation of the Office of the HCHR and the International Community, at large.

To conclude, Mr. President, I wish Mauritania every success in the present UPR exercise.

I thank you

Geneva, 3rd November 2015