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REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

EMBASSY/PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

Statement by Ms. Gladice Pickering – Legal Attaché, during the Interactive Debates on the Universal Periodic Review of Myanmar, 06 November 2015, 09h00 – 12h30

Mr. President,

Namibia welcomes the delegation of Myanmar to the 23rd Session of the UPR and commends them on the presentation of their national report for this review.

The repeal and amendment of existing laws to align it with international human rights instruments, the enactment of investor-friendly laws which will contribute towards economic growth, as well as the various initiatives aimed at poverty alleviation are all commendable reformatory steps undertaken by Myanmar.

My delegation congratulates Myanmar on the publication of the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women 2013-2022 and encourages the Government of Myanmar to allocate adequate resources to effectively implement this Plan.

We trust that Myanmar will continue with their efforts to promote an independent judicial system and wish them all success with the 3-year project, which includes projects aimed at maintaining peace and rule of law, promoting a credible and reliable judicial system, access to due legal process, passing judgments without delay and promoting legitimacy of courts.

Namibia would like to make the following recommendations:

1. That Myanmar considers ratification of the ICCPR and its 2nd Optional Protocol with the view of total abolition of the death penalty.
2. That Myanmar takes positive action to ensure protection of women against sexual violence and their access to legal mechanisms without discrimination.
3. That Myanmar develops a simplified, effective birth registration system through which all

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can access a birth certificate, including a complaints handling mechanism.

We wish Myanmar all the best during their review.

I thank you Mr. President