



22

## 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 Rwanda, 04 November 2015, 09h00 – 12h30*

Mr. President,

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

The progress Rwanda has made since their civil war is remarkable. We encourage Rwanda to follow the path of focusing on the rights and freedoms of its people, which are necessary steps in preventing backsliding on basic and fundamental civil and political rights.

We are pleased to note the country's Vision 2020 and Economic Development Poverty Reduction Strategy 2, which form the baseline for government policies and programmes. We also commend the efforts undertaken by Rwanda to promote and protect the rights of orphans and vulnerable children through the initiatives, programmes and grants coordinated by their National Commission for Children.

Namibia makes the following recommendations:

1. That Rwanda increase funding in order to create an education system that upholds the right to free, universal, and quality education for all children without discrimination.
2. That Rwanda strengthens the independence of the justice system in order to prevent political interference in prosecutions and trials.
3. That the Government of Rwanda adopts best practices on freedom of assembly.

We wish Rwanda all the best during their review.

I thank you Mr. President