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

**23RD SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC
REVIEW**

REVIEW OF RWANDA

04 NOVEMBER 2015

PALAIS DES NATIONS

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Mr President,

South Africa welcomes the distinguished delegation of Rwanda to the 23rd Session of the UPR Working Group and thanks the delegation for the comprehensive presentation of its national report.

We also welcome the efforts made by Rwanda in implementation of recommendations made during the first cycle review, these include the adoption of Law No. 54 Relating to the Rights and Protection of the Child, the commitment shown by the delegation of Rwanda to increasing investment in the education sector to ensure access to education for all Rwandan children as well as achievements registered in the area of access to basic education for all include the continued guarantee of universal primary education.

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

- (1) Take measures to reduce the high rate of maternal mortality and improve access to maternal health information and services including ante-natal, delivery, and post-natal care;**
- (2) Ensure effective application of gender equality legislation and the implementation of policy measures to achieve equality between men and women; and**
- (3) Adopt a comprehensive policy to address the root causes of child trafficking.**

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

I thank you.