



Statement by the Permanent Mission of Saint Lucia to the United Nations in Geneva

2nd UPR of Saint Kitts and Nevis

23rd Session of the UPR Working Group

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Thank you Mr. President.

Saint Lucia warmly welcomes the delegation of Saint Kitts and Nevis, a fellow OECS and CARICOM nation, to Geneva headed by Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, **Ms. Kaye Bass**, and further congratulates the delegation on presenting the report at the second cycle of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

Saint Lucia would like to commend Saint Kitts and Nevis for its longstanding commitment to the Beijing Platform and Plan of Action in addition to all efforts made in implementing CEDAW. The creation of a Special Victims Unit within the Royal Saint Christopher and Nevis Police Force to deal with issues of domestic violence and abuse is evidence of this commitment.

Saint Lucia, also acknowledges the efforts of the Government of Kitts and Nevis to domesticate the CRC which is evident in its completion of the National Child Protocol and Action Plan, the reestablishment of the Probation and Child Welfare Board and the public awareness campaign 'Alternative Discipline: It's Beyond Corporal Punishment'

Saint Lucia however notes that despite the efforts made by the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis, the issue of domestic and sexual violence against women and children remain a plague in the society.

Saint Lucia therefore recommends that the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis continue its commitment to working within OECS on initiatives such as the OECS Family Law and Domestic Violence Legal and Judicial Reform Project; and further recommends that Saint Kitts and Nevis continues to work within the broader membership of CARICOM to establish the creation of regional strategies to combat domestic and sexual violence against women and children.

Mr. President, my delegation wishes Saint Kitts and Nevis a very successful review.