



**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 SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS

11 NOVEMBER 2015

PALAIS DES NATIONS

Check against delivery

Mr President,

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

South Africa is encouraged by the commitment demonstrated by the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis to improve the quality of life of all citizens through the strengthening of the delivery of social programmes and projects which are focused towards family wellness, gender mainstreaming, full participation and involvement in national development, promotion of child rights and the enhancement of the quality of life.

Mr President,

The Constitution of Saint Kitts and Nevis entitles every person to the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms, that is, the rights without discrimination on the basis of race, place of origin, birth, political opinions, colours, creed or sex, but subject to respect for the rights and freedoms of others and for the public interest. We recommend that the country **enact comprehensive legislation that fully guarantees the application of the principle of non-discrimination and to ensure the full enjoyment of all human rights by every member of society.**

We also recognize that office of the Ombudsman tasked with addressing complaints of injustice. We recommend that Saint Kitts and Nevis should consider **establishing a national human rights institution for the promotion and protection of human rights in accordance with the Paris Principles.**

South Africa notes with appreciation that the Government of Saint Kitts and Nevis, during its first cycle review, accepted recommendations to ratify or accede to various international human rights treaties. We reiterated the recommendation that Saint Kitts and should consider **ratifying ICESCR and CAT.**

Finally, Mr. President, my delegation wishes Saint Kitts and Nevis success in their second review.

I thank you.

