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REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

EMBASSY/PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

Statement read by Ms. Gladice Pickering – Legal Attaché, during the Interactive Debates on the Universal Periodic Review of St Lucia, 05 November 2015, 09h00 – 12h30

Mr. President,

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

We take note of the challenges facing the Island State of St Lucia in realizing the right to clean drinking water for its people and wish you success with the joint initiative between the Government of Saint Lucia and the Government of Mexico, to improve the water situation in St Lucia.

Whilst noting that Saint Lucia signed the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights in 2011, we encourage them to speed up the ratification efforts of this instrument.

Namibia commends the efforts by St Lucia to reduce and eradicate poverty and hunger, especially on the commencement of the Short Term Employment Program (STEP) and the feasibility studies conducted by the Ministry of Education on implementing the 'Zero Hunger' challenge.

Namibia makes the following recommendations:

1. That St Lucia takes legislative measures to ensure non-discrimination against children in all settings and to fully implement the provisions of the CRC.
2. That St Lucia takes active measures to review its national legislation with the aim of eliminating existing gender based discriminatory provisions.
3. That St Lucia takes legislative measures to fully implement the provisions of the CEDAW.

We wish St Lucia all the best during their review.

I thank you Mr. President

All official correspondence should be addressed to the Head of Mission