

**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF
MOZAMBIQUE AT THE 24TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL
PERIODIC REVIEW**

(19 January 2016, Geneva)

1. **Mr. President,** Botswana welcomes the delegation of Mozambique to their second UPR. We thank them for the presentation of their comprehensive national report.

2. We note with appreciation that Mozambique implemented most of the accepted recommendations from their first review.

3. We particularly welcome the creation of the National Commission on Human Rights in accordance with the Paris Principles; and the establishment of the Office of the Ombudsman. We encourage Mozambique to continuously strengthen the two institutions in order to effectively deliver on their mandates.

4. We also commend Mozambique for the development of the Quinquennium Government Program 2015-2019, which is aimed at strengthening good governance, fighting corruption and eradicating poverty, among others. Mozambique has also made a significant increase in the number of women in senior positions in Government, including the 40% representation of women in Parliament.

5. While progress has clearly been made in different areas, some challenges still remain. We note reports of high prevalence in child debt bondage, child abuse, including sexual exploitation and child labour. There are also reports of unlawful killings, extrajudicial killings and excessive use of force by some members of the police. We encourage Mozambique to ensure that perpetrators of such acts are held to account.

6. Botswana wishes to make the following two recommendations to Mozambique:

- a) strengthen the protection of rights of children, particularly those in vulnerable situations, and ensure perpetrators of sexual violence and child labour are held to account;
- b) ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC, including its Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities.

7. We wish Mozambique a successful review outcome report.

I thank you, Mr. President!