

STATEMENT BY THE KINGDOM OF LESOTHO
Review of Sierra Leone
24th Session of UPR Working Group of Human Rights Council,
27 January 2016

Lesotho warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Sierra Leone and thanks them for the comprehensive presentation of their National Report.

Lesotho notes with appreciation the advancements the Government of Sierra Leone has made to improve the human rights situation in the country.

Amongst others, Lesotho commends Sierra Leone for promulgating critical legislations such as the Persons with Disability Act 2011, the Sexual Offences Act 2012 and Legal Aid 2012.

The Lesotho delegation further notes the extent to which the unprecedented outbreak of the Ebola Virus unfortunately disrupted Sierra Leone's efforts to enhance human rights in the country. Moreover, we also take note of the paucity of resources the country has to contend with in a pursuit to implement some of the human rights instruments and policies.

In this regard we call upon the friendly states to extend the required support to Sierra Leone to overcome these daunting challenges.

We also wishes to make the following recommendations to Sierra Leone:

- 1) Accelerate the Constitutional Review Process.
- 2) Strengthen key human rights institutions with a sharp focus on the protection of women and children.

Finally, my delegation wishes Sierra Leone a successful review.

I thank you.