



41

**Statement delivered by South Africa**  
**25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)**  
**Review of Antigua and Barbuda**  
**09 May 2016**

***Check Against Delivery***

Mr President, South Africa welcomes the delegation of Antigua and Barbuda led by ... and the presentation of its national report.

South Africa welcomes the commitment of the Antigua and Barbuda in promoting human rights and respect for the rule of law. We recognize that despite constraints faced, the country has registered a number of notable achievements including the implementation of policies and plans for social and economic development reduction and the alleviation of poverty. Antigua and Barbuda has also being ranked favourably in the United Nations Human Development Index. We further welcome national efforts in launching the International Decade on People of African Descent.

South Africa encourages Antigua and Barbuda to continue all efforts towards the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights, including the Right to Development and recommends the following:

- 1) To continue efforts at protecting all members of society from discrimination, harassment and violence, regardless of their sexual orientation.
- 2) To consider taking steps toward the abolition of the death penalty; and
- 3) To continue its efforts towards universal access to education, including the provision of free schooling at all levels.

We wish Antigua and Barbuda a very successful review during this Session.

I thank you.