

**HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL 25TH SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE
UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (2ND – 13TH MAY, 2016)**

**REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE UNIVERSAL
PERIODIC REVIEW OF SWAZILAND**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GHANA DELIVERED BY
MR. JOSEPH OWUSU-ANSAH, FIRST SECRETARY, ON
TUESDAY 10TH MAY, 2016**

I thank you Mr. President

Ghana extends a warm welcome to the delegation of Swaziland and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

Ghana notes the strides made by Swaziland in implementing the recommendations of the first UPR cycle, particularly the ratification of some international human rights instruments contained in paragraph 14 of its national report. Ghana recommends to Swaziland ratify the International Convention of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

Ghana commends the Government of Swaziland for scaling up Antiretroviral Therapy in their fight against HIV/AIDS in Swaziland. Ghana, however, shares the concern of the UN country team in Swaziland regarding the high prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS among the sexually active population in Swaziland. On this note, Ghana recommends to Swaziland to redoubles its efforts on HIV/AIDS response, especially on prevention strategies and to takes steps to address discrimination against persons living with HIV/AIDS.

In addition, Ghana recommends to Swaziland:

1. to take effective legal steps to eliminate child and forced marriage;
2. to issue standing invitation to all special procedures;
3. to submit overdue reports to treaty bodies;
4. to repeal discriminatory provisions in the Constitution and Citizenship Acts

Ghana wishes Swaziland a successful outcome to this review process.

I thank you.