

PERMANENT MISSION OF MONTENEGRO TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT GENEVA

UPR of Swaziland, 2nd UPR Cycle

May 10, 2016

Statement by H.E. Ambassador Nebojša Kaluđerović

Montenegro warmly welcomes distinguished delegation of Swaziland and commends its commitment to the UPR process.

We welcome the efforts of the Government to improve the legal and institutional framework for the protection of rights of the child. In this regard, we commend the adoption of the Children's Protection and Welfare Act, which provided a wide range of protective measures, including the establishment and strengthening of national and community structures for the protection and care of children, the setting up of child-sensitive juvenile justice systems and protection from all forms of abuse and exploitation.

While welcoming the ratification of the CRPD in 2012, we are concerned about a lack of cooperation with the treaty bodies and a number of core human rights instruments that Swaziland is not a party. We have noted the concerns of the CEDAW Committee about a number of draft laws and policies on women's rights, including those on sexual offences, domestic violence and the bills on marriage, that were still pending. We would appreciate if the delegation could elaborate on the steps undertaken to enact those instruments, and in particular to prevent and eliminate all abuse of and sexual violence against girls in schools and ensure that perpetrators are adequately punished. We would also appreciate information on the legal measures that the Government plans to undertake with a view to prohibit and eliminate child, early and forced marriages and abolish polygamy.

Montenegro would like to offer the following recommendations to the delegation of Swaziland:

1. To ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty.
2. To take appropriate measures to prohibit corporal punishment in all settings.