

**SIERRA LEONE**

**25th Session of the UPR**

**KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND**

**STATEMENT BY SIERRA LEONE**

10 May 2016

Mr President,

Sierra Leone warmly welcomes the Swaziland delegation to this UPR session and thanks them for their update.

Sierra Leone commends the Kingdom of Swaziland for the steps it has taken since the last review to address the human rights of its people. Noteworthy achievements include the passing of the Child Protection Welfare Act, as well as a Free Primary Education Act. We commend also the efforts to address the prevalence of HIV/AIDS through the extension of the National Multi Sectoral Strategic Framework.

My delegation notes, with satisfaction, that the Kingdom of Swaziland has had a de facto moratorium on the death penalty for over a decade and urges that its abolition be considered.

Sierra Leone is concerned about reported violence perpetuated against persons living with albinism and would urge Swaziland to establish awareness-raising campaigns to sensitise its local populace to the need to protect their human rights and to end harmful cultural practices.

Furthermore, my delegation would encourage Swaziland to implement measures to eliminate violence against women and girls, including domestic and sexual violence.

Recommendations:

1. Ratify and accede to the ICRMW and ICPPED.
2. Submit the overdue reports to the relevant treaty bodies.
3. Thoroughly investigate and prosecute incidents of violence perpetuated against persons with albinism.
4. Modify its national laws to ensure that mothers can pass on nationality to their offspring regardless of the nationality of the father.

In conclusion, Sierra Leone wishes the Kingdom of Swaziland a successful UPR.

Thank you, Mr President.