



**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

**UGANDA'S STATEMENT**

**By:**

**Ambassador Benedict Lukwiya  
Deputy Permanent Representative,  
Permanent Mission of Uganda**

**at**

**THE 25<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW WORKING  
GROUP ON SWAZILAND.**

**Geneva, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

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**Mr. President,**

Uganda welcomes the delegation of the Kingdom of Swaziland to this 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle of the UPR.

We commend the government for the efforts made so far and ~~as recommended at the 2014 review, we~~ urge Government to expedite implementation of the previous UPR recommendations regarding the development and adoption of a national human rights action plan and to build adequate capacity to meet the country's treaty-body reporting obligations.

Swaziland has preserved a very rich cultural heritage that uphold African values and norms but from our own national experience, some of these cultural practices and traditions seriously conflict with the roles and responsibilities of women and men in the family and in society today. Consequently, women, especially those living in rural areas under traditional leaders are often subjected to discrimination and harmful practices.

While the constitution of Swaziland clearly prohibits discrimination, the challenge facing government is the effective enforcement of these prohibitions.

Uganda recommends that the government carries out reforms to ensure equality for women and prevent their discrimination in law and practice to have them enjoy their right to equality with men. A systematic national legislative and policy reform process is necessary to align all laws and policies with the principle of equality and non-discrimination as stated in the Constitution, and in accordance with CEDAW.

**Mr. President,**

The report notes that Swaziland has one of the highest HIV/AIDS prevalence in the region and women carry the brunt of HIV/AIDS and poverty. ~~My delegation would like to know what the government is doing to improve this situation in the country.~~ We also recommend that the government expedites the implementation of the Extended National Strategic Framework on HIV/AIDS that was adopted in 2014.

Finally, with regard to people with disability, the constitution ~~adequately~~ calls for the protection of disabled persons. However, the government still needs to put in place relevant laws that prohibit discrimination in employment and provide access to health-care and other services for disabled persons.

I thank you.