

9

**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF
SWAZILAND AT THE 25TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL
PERIODIC REVIEW**

(10 May 2016, Geneva)

Mr. President,

1. Botswana welcomes the Delegation of Swaziland to their second Universal Periodic Review and thanks them for the presentation of their comprehensive national report.

2. We applaud Swaziland's efforts of promoting, protecting and fulfilling human rights obligations through ratification of a number of international instruments, including, the Optional Protocol on the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children with armed conflict and the Convention against Organised Crime.

3. We commend Swaziland for training its judiciary and law enforcers on international instruments, including the emphasis of training on handling of children during court cases. We welcome the measures that have been taken to guarantee the independence of the judiciary, including, the security of tenure of all judicial officers.

4. Botswana notes reports of inequalities experienced by women and high rates of violence on women and children. We also note reports of incidents of attacks and killings of people with albinism and urge Swaziland to urgently address the issue.

5. Botswana makes the following recommendations for Swaziland's consideration:

- (a) Align national laws in accordance with the principles outlined in CEDAW to address women's rights that include land acquisition, equality and citizenship of children.
- (b) Enact and implement laws on sexual offences and violence to address high rates of sexual and gender based violence.

6. We wish Swaziland a successful review and adoption of their UPR report.