



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

UGANDA'S STATEMENT

By:

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

at

**The 25th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group
on Trinidad And Tobago.**

Geneva, 10th May 2016

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Mr. President,

Uganda welcomes the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago and thanks the leader of delegation for the national report.

We note the progress since the last review in 2011 and we commend the Government for the effort at upholding citizens' rights and freedoms through commitment to the protection of women and children, poverty reduction and reducing the incidence of violent crime as well as to improving the welfare of those living with HIV/AIDS. Continued efforts are however necessary for the full realisation of Government objectives.

With the growing concern over human trafficking, the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2011 which came into force in January 2013 is of significance especially its emphasis on promoting cooperation between Trinidad and Tobago and other States in order to prevent and suppress trafficking in persons and to punish offenders.

Likewise, the priority given to the protection of the rights of children is appreciated while the key concern remains to ensure increased protection of children against all forms of abuse including sexual abuse. We welcome the effort to address this through the introduction of a wider and more comprehensive range of offences pertaining to various forms of child sexual abuse.

Uganda has two recommendations:

1. In order to strengthen the effort to protect and assist victims of trafficking, the Government should ensure that victims of trafficking are provided with the opportunity to seek asylum and enjoy the corresponding rights and services.
2. To ensure adequate protection, Government should provide increased support to the family as the only natural environment suitable for raising children.

Finally, Uganda wishes Trinidad and Tobago success in the review.

I thank you.