

**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF TRINIDAD  
AND TOBAGO AT THE 25<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL  
PERIODIC REVIEW**

*(10 May 2016, Geneva)*

1. **Mr. President,** Botswana welcomes the delegation of Trinidad and Tobago to their second UPR. We thank them for their comprehensive report.

2. We applaud Trinidad and Tobago for the successful implementation of recommendations from their first review. The proclamation of a number of laws, including, the Trafficking in Persons Act and the Children Act show Trinidad and Tobago's commitment to promote and protect human rights.

3. We welcome strides that have been made in improving access to justice, particularly the amended Legal Aid and Advice Act and the Administration of Justice Electronic Monitoring Act. This Legal Aid and Advice Act allows access to legal aid for juveniles and persons arrested for minor offences within a reasonable time. The introduction of electronic monitoring will relieve prison overcrowding while offering effective supervision outside of correctional institution as it is meant to monitor convicts who are serving their sentences in communities.

4. It is however, evident some challenges still remain. We note reports of abuses carried out by law enforcers, including corruption, police killings of people in custody and ill treatment of sex workers and undocumented migrants. We also note reports

of inequalities faced by women in all sectors of the economy, including access to work, education and health.

5. From the concerns expressed, Botswana therefore makes the following two recommendations to Trinidad and Tobago:

- i) Establish an authority that will investigate and recommend action against abuses by law enforcers as a way to curb corruption; violations and protect the integrity of the security forces;
- ii) Abolish child marriage by having a minimum age of marriage at 18.

6. We wish Trinidad and Tobago a successful review outcome.

I thank you, Mr. President!