**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA**

**DURING THE REVIEW OF AZERBAIJAN AT THE 44TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

(14th November 2023, Geneva)

**Mr. President,**

1. Botswana warmly welcomes the delegation of the Azerbaijan to the fourth cycle of the UPR process.
2. We commend Azerbaijan for the strides made in the promotion and protection of human rights particularly the National Action Plan prevention of child trafficking.
3. Despite the positive steps taken, Botswana recommend that Azerbaijan:
   1. Adopts and implements relevant policies that will recognise the role of women in society for the realisation of Sustainable Development Goal 5.
   2. Takes steps to improve the current disability legislation by replacing some derogatory expressions with new modern terms that reflect equality.

We wish the Azerbaijan a successful review outcome.

**I thank you, Mr. President**