**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA**

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

(13th November 2023, Geneva)

**Mr. President,**

1. Botswana warmly welcomes the delegation of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh to this UPR cycle. We thank the delegation for their comprehensive and informative national report.
2. Botswana notes the positive steps undertaken in different spheres in relation to the promotion and protection of Human Rights in Bangladesh, in particular through the commitment to strengthening the effectiveness and independence of the National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh, as well as the development of the National Adolescent Health Strategy 2017–2030.
3. While noting the progress made in promoting and protecting human rights in general by Bangladesh, we would like to recommends that Bangladesh:
   1. Strengthen the implementation of the National Adolescent Health Strategy 2017–2030 by allocating the necessary human and technical resources to ensure optimal results.
   2. Investigates all reported cases of violence against women and children in a timely manner and to take the necessary steps to ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice.

We wish Bangladesh a successful review outcome.

**I thank you, Mr. President**