**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF REPUBLIC OF CUBA AT THE 44TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP**

*(15th November 2023, Geneva)*

**Mr President,**

1. Botswana welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Republic of Cuba to this UPR Session and thanks them for their comprehensive and informative national report.
2. We commend Cuba for the strides made in advancing human development as well as promotionand protecting human rights. In particular, we commend the continuing commitment by Cuba to the universal provision of primary health care.
3. We similarly wish to commend Cuba on the ongoing third round of improvement to the National Education System, which promotes participation by multiple actors from the education sector.
4. Going forward, Botswana recommends that Cuba;
   1. Implements measures to promote equitable access to health-care services for all persons, including those living with disabilities.
   2. Take measures to promote universal enrolment in primary and secondary education.

We wish Cuba a successful UPR outcome.

**I thank you, Mr President**