

**STATEMENT BY THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI TO THE 45TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP ON BELIZE**

**GENEVA**

**29 JANUARY 2024**

Thank you, Mr President

The Kingdom of Eswatini warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Belize and applauds the progress achieved thus far.

We commend Belize for the establishment of the People’s Constitutional Commission, responsible for reviewing to improve its constitutional framework, while increasing citizen engagement.

Furthermore, we commend the #PlanBelize Medium Term Development Strategy, which centers on upholding fundamental rights and ensuring equitable access to essential services.

In the spirit of constructive dialogue, Eswatini recommends Belize to:

1. Ensure that persons who cannot be held criminally responsible owing to mental health problems be referred to appropriate mental health facilities.
2. Strictly implement the domestic legal framework in relation to trafficking of persons;
3. Ensure the adequate prioritization of gender-based violence, and to hold perpetrators accountable.

We wish Belize all the success during the UPR process.

I thank you.