**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS AT THE 45TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP**

*(24th January 2024, Geneva)*

**Mr President,**

1. We welcome the delegation of the Republic of Mauritius to the fourth cycle of the UPR process and thank them for their national report.
2. Botswana notes with appreciation that Mauritius supported one of its recommendations during their last review which was to strengthen laws and policies aimed at protecting children’s rights, particularly those aimed at prohibiting, preventing and responding to the sale and sexual exploitation of children. This is demonstrated by the enactment of the Children’s Act 2020, the Children’s Court Act 2020 and the Child Sex Offender Register Act 2020 all aimed at protecting the rights of the child.
3. In order to further advance children’s rights in the country, Botswana recommends that Mauritius:
   1. Continues with efforts towards the promotion and protection of the rights of children, by ensuring that Child Service Coordination Panel is adequately resourced to implement its mandate; and,
   2. Ensures that the Ten-Year Strategic Plan for Children currently being developed is in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
4. We wish Mauritius a successful UPR outcome.

**I thank you, Mr President**