**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA**

**DURING THE REVIEW OF THE UNION OF COMOROS AT THE 46TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP**

*(03rd May 2024, Geneva)*

**Mr. President,**

1. Botswana warmly welcomes the delegation of Comoros to the fourth cycle of the UPR process. We thank the delegation for the presentation of a comprehensive national report.
2. Botswana notes with appreciation that Comoros supported both our recommendations during their last review, which called for the ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; and strengthening institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights.
3. Notwithstanding the extensive measures taken and advances in the promotion and protection of human rights, we note that challenges still remain in the areas of domestic violence particularly gender based violence. In this regard, we recommend that Comoros:
4. Strengthens public awareness against GBV in order to promote the protection of women and girls from violence ; and
5. Step up efforts to effectively enforce child protection programmes.
6. We wish Comoros a successful review outcome.

**I thank you, Mr. President.**