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**RECOMMENDATIONS DELIVERED BY THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA DURING THE 46TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP ON THE REVIEW OF THE STATE REPORT OF THE DOMICAN REPUBLIC TUESDAY 7TH MAY 2024 -2 :30PM**

**Mr. Vice President,**

We warmly welcome the delegation from the Dominican Republic and commend them for their progress in the protection of children and women, particularly the adoption of Law No. 1-21 in 2021, which prohibits marriage for individuals under 18 years of age, and the Bill on violence against women.

We offer the following recommendations in a spirit of constructive engagement:

1. Ensure that the pathways for regularization of nationality and naturalization under Law 169-14 are transparent, non-discriminatory and effectively implemented to prevent statelessness.
2. Intensify efforts to combat gender-based violence by increasing the rate of prosecutions, imposing stricter sentences, and enhancing victim support initiatives.
3. Address situations of vulnerability contributing to the sexual exploitation of women and girls, including the full implementation of the National Action Plan against Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling.

**We wish the Dominican Republic a successful review.**

**Thank you. Thank you.**