**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF NEW ZEALAND AT THE 46TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) WORKING GROUP**

*(29th April 2024, Geneva)*

**Mr President,**

1. We welcome the delegation of New Zealand to the fourth cycle of the UPR process and thank them for their national report.
2. Botswana notes with appreciation that New Zealand supported both our recommendations during their last review which were on the intensification of efforts to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish acts of trafficking in persons; and, on the formulation and implementation effective policies geared towards the elimination of poverty.
3. We welcome the establishment of an inter-ministerial human rights mechanism in 2021 meant to improve reporting on the implementation of, and follow-up on the treaty obligations. We trust that this will strengthen New Zealand’s national implementation of treaties to which she is a Party. In line with the above, Botswana recommends that New Zealand:
	1. Ensures that the inter-ministerial human rights mechanism is provided with adequate human, technical and financial resources to enable it to effectively implement its mandate; and,
	2. Ensures that women, young people, people with disabilities and older persons are adequately represented in the inter-ministerial human rights mechanism.

We wish New Zealand a successful UPR outcome.

**I thank you, Mr President**