

*Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève*

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| **WG UPR – Vanuatu**  ***Belgian intervention***  XX May 2024 |

President,

Belgium congratulates Vanuatu with several initiatives aimed at reducing violence against women. Nevertheless, Belgium believes more progress can be achieved and recommends the government of Vanuatu to:

**R.1.** Put in place a comprehensive strategy to eliminate discriminatory gender stereotypes and patriarchal attitudes, including regarding women’s access to justice.

**R2.** Ensure that perpetrators of violence against women are duly prosecuted and punished with sentences that are commensurate with the seriousness of their crimes.

**R3.**  Ensure women’s equal participation in public and political life, including by adopting temporary quota in the national Parliament and in the provincial, local and municipal councils.

Thank you.