

**STATEMENT BY THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI TO THE 46TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP ON VANUATU**

**GENEVA**

**02 MAY 2024**

Thank you, Mr President,

The Kingdom of Eswatini welcomes the distinguished delegation of Vanuatu, and wishes to commend the Government of Vanuatu for supporting 96 recommendations out of the 135, despite the many challenges we have been faced with globally, including the COVID- 19 pandemic.

We congratulate Vanuatu for the new legislations enacted that provide additional protection of human rights, pertaining to education, health, and justice.

Furthermore, we commend Vanuatu for the National Gender Equality Policy, which provides for the protection and promotion of women and girls in Vanuatu.

In the spirit of constructive dialogue, Eswatini recommends Vanuatu to:

1. Adopt more legislation, specifically addressing human trafficking, particularly regarding women and children.
2. Adopt laws that enabled the registration of marriages, to ensure women can claim their legal rights.
3. Improve the protection of persons with disabilities, as well as protect children with disabilities from all forms of violence and abuse,

Lastly we wish Vanuatu all the success during the UPR process.