

**Statement delivered by Sumbue ANTAS**

**Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Vanuatu**

**at Gambia’s Review, 48th Session of the UPR,**

**Geneva 21 January 2025 (1 min)**

Thank you, Mr. President,

Vanuatu warmly welcomes the High-Level delegation of Gambia and thanks the delegation for the presentation of its national report.

Vanuatu commands the country for its notable accomplishments in the field of human rights. We particularly welcome the establishment of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), which became operational in February 2019.

Vanuatu further highlights among Gambia’s achievements, National Climate Change Policy 2017-2024, which addressed urgent and significant climate threats.

Vanuatu encourages the Gambian authorities to continue their efforts and would like, in a constructive dialogue, to make the following recommendations:

* Seek technical assistance from regional and international partners, in accordance with its needs and priorities, to enhance the country’s capacity in the field of human rights.
* Develop Mental Health Bill in line with international human rights standards and strength institutions that provide mental health services.

Vanuatu wishes the delegation of Italy a successful UPR.

I thank you.