

**EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS & PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

**AMBASSADE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE MAURICE ET MISSION PERMANENTE AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES**

**ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES**

**Universal Periodic Review of Benin**

**10 November 2017**

**Statement by Mauritius**

Mr President,

My delegation thanks H.E Mr Joseph Fifamin Djogbenou, Minister of Justice and Legislation for the elaborate presentation of the UPR Report of Benin.

We note that since its last UPR in 2012, Benin has taken significant steps towards the promotion and protection of human rights and we commend Benin for its commitment to provide better social protection and access to basic social services to all its citizens. In this regard we welcome the Government Programme of Action for 2016-2021and the various measures to improve access to drinking water, health, and housing and free higher education and to support the economic empowerment of women.

My delegation also congratulates Benin for the adoption of the Children's Code, the national child protection policy, the action plan for its implementation as well as the nationwide birth registration campaign.

We recommend that Benin continues in its efforts to promote the rights of the child and consider setting up a centralized civil registration system.

We wish Benin a successful review.

Thank you, Mr. President.