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**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**

**CONSIDERATION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF ST KITTS AND NEVIS**

**19 JANUARY 2021 – 14 30 hrs**

Chair,

The Mauritius delegation extends a warm welcome to the high level delegation of St Kitts and Nevis. We congratulate St Kitts and Nevis for the presentation of its UPR Report for the third cycle.

Both our islands share similar challenges as Small Islands Developing State (SIDS). We have the inherent vulnerabilities of climate change, which places particular burdens on small islands for we have to be ever-ready prepared for any natural disaster arising and to ensure that our people remain safe.

We therefore, commend St Kitts and Nevis for its National Safe School Committee, developed with a view to increasing the level of safety in schools and effective disaster and mitigation response.

In a constructive spirit, we would like to recommend that St Kitts and Nevis strengthen laws to combat sexual abuse against children and gender-based violence.

We wish the delegation of St Kitts and Nevis a successful review. Thank you, Chair