**Statement and Recommendation by Barbados**

**Human Rights Council**

**37th session of the UPR Working Group of Rwanda**

**25 January 2021**

Mr. Vice-President,

Barbados welcomes the delegation of Rwanda. From the information provided in the National Report, and in the updates given today, it is clear that the commitment of the Government of Rwanda, to promoting and protecting human rights, remains strong.

Barbados recommends that Rwanda:

1. Continue to allocate the necessary budgetary and other resources required to promote and protect children, particularly those living in poverty.
2. Strengthen measures to encourage the exercise of an independent media and to enhance the enjoyment by all persons of the freedom of opinion and expression – collectively and as individuals.
3. Intensify efforts to safeguard the rights of immigrants and refugees.

Mr. Vice-President, we appreciate the progress made by Rwanda in strengthening its legislation and deepening fundamental freedoms, which has contributed to the effective enjoyment of economic and social rights. In addition, we applaud its efforts at adaptation to cope with climate change.

Thank you Mr. Vice-President.