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**Statement**

**Delivered by**

**the Permanent Mission of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana**

**Universal Periodic Review of Seychelles**

**May 10, 2021**

Madam President,

Guyana welcomes the Delegation of Seychelles and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

Guyana commends the positive steps taken to strengthen human rights protection in Seychelles. In particular, we welcome the many initiatives being undertaken to safeguard the rights of children, such as the appointment of a Child Law Reform Committee, convening of Children’s Conferences and amendment of the Education Act to ensure the integration of children with disabilities in the education system.

In a constructive spirit, we offer the following recommendations:

1. continue to address school dropout rates and reduce the number of out-of-school children, paying special attention to boys, while also taking measures to provide adequate vocational training for girls; and
2. ensure the effective retention and reintegration of pregnant girls and young mothers into the school system, including by reviewing the teenage pregnancy policy to include out-of-school educational support for teenage mothers.

We wish Seychelles a successful Review!

Thank you.