

**Statement delivered by Loudon MATTIYA**

**Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Malawi to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva**

**38**th **Session of the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of Belgium**

5 May, 2021

Thank you, Madam President.

The Republic of Malawi warmly welcomes the delegation of Belgium and offers its appreciation for the comprehensive report.

Malawi commends Belgium for its efforts in implementing the recommendations accepted in the second cycle, including the ratifications of eight international human rights instruments and two optional protocols. We also applaud Belgium for timely submission of country reports to treaty bodies.

In a constructive spirit, Malawi makes the following recommendations to Belgium:

1. Consider ratifying the core human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party, including the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
2. Accelerate the process of ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment; and
3. Continue with various measures undertaken to stop ethnic profiling by the Police and other Law Enforcement Agencies.

We wish Belgium a successful review process.

I thank you, Madam President.