

**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS AT GENEVA**

**39TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**ESWATINI**

Fiji commends Eswatini for the honest reflection on how women and girls are discriminated in many ways often disguised as tradition, customs as well as patriarchal norms and values which society has held on to in the name of indigenous culture or way of life. Understanding this is crucial and the initiatives and steps taken by Eswatini are a testament to its commitment to continue to work towards true equality, equal empowerment and the equal enjoyment of human rights.

We offer the following recommendations:

1. Ensure the meaningful participation of women, children, persons with disabilities, and local communities in the development and implementation of climate change and disaster risk reduction frameworks.
2. Take the necessary steps to combat discrimination and violence against women and children, and on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.
3. Ensure that all deaths in custody and cases of torture and ill-treatment are promptly investigated, with the perpetrators prosecuted, convicted and held to account.

We wish Eswatini a successful review.