

*Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève*

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| **WG UPR 39 – eSwatini**  ***Belgian Intervention***  8 November 2021 |

Mr./Madam President,

Belgium notes the efforts undertaken by the government of eSwatini since the previous review. There is, however, room for further progress. Belgium therefore recommends the government to:

**R1.** Repeal the Suppression of Terrorism Act, 2008 as amended in 2017, to bring it in line with eSwatini’s constitution, as well as the country’s obligations under international and regional human rights law

**R2.** Implement a public education program, including at community level, to combat domestic violence and raise awareness of the Sexual Offences Domestic Violence Act of 2018

And finally, out of concern that a repressive response to civil discontent cannot resolve tensions:

**R3.** Take steps to prevent excessive use of force by law enforcement against peaceful protests and ensure that allegations of excessive use of force are promptly, independently and transparently investigated.

Thank you, Mr./Madam President.