41st session of the UPR Working Group

Review of the South Africa

Recommendations by Sweden

Delivered by: H.E. Ms Anna Jardfelt, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the UN in Geneva

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President,

Sweden appreciates South Africa’s strong constitutional protection for human rights. Sweden encourages South Africa to further accelerate its efforts to implement policies and legislation to ensure accountability for human rights violations and abuses. Concerns remain regarding sexual and gender-based violence, protection of human rights defenders and whistle-blowers as well xenophobic violence.

Sweden would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Fully implement the National Strategic Plan on gender-based violence (GBV), including strengthening monitoring and adoption of clear and measurable targets.
2. Adopt legal frameworks for the protection of human rights defenders and whistle-blowers.
3. Implement stronger measures to address impunity for xenophobic crimes, including adoption of the Prevention and Combating of Hate Crimes and Hate Speech bill currently in parliament.

Thank you