**Statement by Mr. Jerry Mika, during the Interactive Dialogue on the Universal Periodic Review of Ecuador, 07 November 2022**

**Time: 1 min 45 seconds**

1. **Thank you, Mr. President,**
2. Namibia warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Ecuador and thank them for their commitment to the UPR process.
3. **Mr. President,**

We always pride ourselves in promoting universal respect for the rights of women and girls. Namibia is, therefore, pleased to note that among the positive human rights impacting measures taken by Ecuador, is the introducation of changes to its Comprehensive National System to prevent and eradicate gender-based violence. We also commend Ecaudor for establishing 45 centres around the country for purposes of providing assistance to victims of gender-based violence.

1. In the spirit of constructive dialogue, we make the following recommendations for consideration by Ecuador:
	1. Implement measures to ensure the safety of journalist, including by guaranteeing the right of journalist to protect their sources.
	2. Guarantee the right to consultation and free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples, as a means of effective participation in any matter that could affect their rights.
	3. We wish the delegation of Ecuador a successful review.
2. **I thank you, Mr. President.**