**42ND SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW WORKING GROUP:**

**REVIEW OF GABON**

*24 January 2023*

**STATEMENT BY BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

Thank you, Mr. President.

First and foremost, we would like to join others in expressing our deepest condolences to the Gabonese delegation on the passing of Foreign Minister, His Excellency Michael Moussa Adamo. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people and government of Gabon.

Brunei Darussalam thanks Gabon for the presentation of their National Report.

We commend the continued improvement of the rights of people in Gabon, especially in the area of education. We note that various steps have been taken including the establishment of the 2021 National Development Plan, which sets out measures to strengthen education governance and improve teaching quality.

Brunei Darussalam believes that education is an empowering right and the most sustainable investment.

In moving forward, we propose two recommendations:

1. Continue efforts to guarantee better access to education; and
2. Further strengthen strategies on inclusive education, including for children with disabilities.

Mr. President,

Brunei Darussalam wishes Gabon a successful review.

Thank you.

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