

**Statement delivered by Sumbue ANTAS,**

**Ambassador/ Permanent Representative of the Republic of Vanuatu to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva**

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**Review of Ghana**

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Thank you, Mr. President.

Vanuatu welcomes the delegation of Ghana and thank them for the informative presentation on the human rights situation in their country.

In the spirit of open and constructive dialogue, Vanuatu would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Strengthen the government’s commitment to take ambitious action to combat climate change, by implementing Ghana’s NDC and taking action to phase out all fossil fuels and shift to renewable energy in accordance with the international human rights instruments;
2. To put in place practical measures to fully protect the rights of all human rights defenders;
3. Expeditiously adopt and implement domestic legislation to promote the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment;
4. Continue to strengthen mechanisms and policies to eliminate violence against women and girls by implementing laws that prohibit harmful practices such as female genital mutilation and early and forced marriage.

Vanuatu wishes Ghana a successful review.

Thank you