**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA DURING THE REVIEW OF THE UPR REPORT OF GHANA AT THE 42ND SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**23 JANUARY-3 FEBRUARY 2023**

**24 JANUARY 2023- 14:30PM-18:00PM**

**Thank you Mr President,**

**The Gambia warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Ghana and thank them for their continued and constructive engagement with the Universal Periodic Review mechanism.**

**We wish to commend Ghana’s implementation of The Ghana School Feeding Program since 2020 which provide meals daily to students in all districts around the country, ensures high rates of school enrolment, and increased employment for local farmers.**

**Mr President,**

**The Gambia would like to make the following recommendations to the delegation of Ghana;**

**1. That Ghana adopts a legal framework to safeguard the rights of people with mental disabilities, specifically psychosocial disabilities, in prayer camps and psychiatric hospitals.**

**2. That Ghana strengthens public policies against shackling, solitary confinement, and deprivation of food in psychiatric hospitals and prayer camps.**

**3. That Ghana ratifies the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children children prostitution and child pornography**

**Mr President,**

**In conclusion, my delegation wishes the distinguished delegation of Ghana a successful review and fruitful deliberations.**

**Thank you.**