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

**23 JANUARY-3 FEBRUARY 2023**

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

**Thank you Mr Vice President,**

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

We wish to commend Guatemala’s significant progress made in women’s representation in public office, especially in the legislative and judicial branches and equally note the adoption of protocols for treating survivors of sexual violence and violence against women.

**Mr Vice President,**

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

1. That Guatemala put in place mechanisms to investigate, prosecute, and sanction the perpetrators of abductions, homicide, and femicide of children.

2. That Guatemala ensures the desegregation and inclusion of children with severe or multiple disabilities.

3. That Guatemala support efforts to increase women’s access to financial services and promote entrepreneurial activities to address the disproportionate levels of poverty among women, including the economic, social and land inequalities

**Mr Vice President,**

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

**Thank you.**