*(1’05’’)*

**UPR 43**

**BOTSWANA**

*03 May 2023*

**Statement by the Czechia**

Czechia welcomes the delegation of Botswana. We welcome the efforts by the Government of Botswana to respond to the recommendations made during the previous UPR session. In particular, we appreciate the decriminalization of same-sex consensual relations, which advanced the enjoyment of human rights.

We once again recommend to:

* Ratify the **Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture** and establish the national preventive mechanism.

We wish to further recommend to:

* Maintain the moratorium on executions, **abolish the death penalty** and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
* Ensure **freedom and plurality of media**;
* Take action to prevent and eliminate **gender-based violence**, especially sexual violence.

We wish Botswana a successful UPR.

I thank you.