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**SOUTH AFRICAN PERMANENT MISSION**

**TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

**43rd SESSION OF THE WORKING GROUP ON THE**

**UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

**Review of BURUNDI**

**04 MAY 2023**

**(09:00-12:30)**

**70 Seconds**

**speaker no: 63**

***Check against delivery***

Mr. President,

South Africa welcomes the distinguished delegation of Burundi to this UPR Session.

My delegation is encouraged by Burundi’s commitment to promoting and protecting human rights which is reflected through, among others, the renewal of the mandates of the Office of the Ombudsman and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, as well as the establishment of a department for the prevention of gender-based violence and the creation of a national committee for persons with disabilities.

South Africa wishes to respectfully recommend that Burundi:

1. Continue efforts to ensure the independence of the National Independent Human Rights Commission.
2. Enhance reforms to promote and protect the right to work and the right to just and favourable conditions of work for women, persons living with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups.
3. Strengthen measures towards removing structural and legal barriers to women’s participation in politics and decision-making processes.

South Africa wishes Burundi a successful review.

I thank you