*G. Samouel*

**Intervention by Cyprus**

**3 May 2023, 09:00-12:30**

**Universal Periodic Review**

**43rd Session**

**Botswana**

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes the participation of the delegation of Botswana at today’s UPR and expresses its appreciation for its report.

Cyprus welcomes Botswana’s ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and commends the adoption of the Sexual Offenders Registry Act (2021) as well as the progress towards decriminalization of same-sex relations.

Notwithstanding the positive steps taken, Cyprus would like to make the following recommendations to Botswana:

1. Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;
2. Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR;
3. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture;
4. Consider introducing a moratorium on the use of the death penalty;
5. Strengthen efforts to combat gender-based violence.

Thank you.