

*Check against delivery*

**UPR 43 – Botswana**

**Wednesday 3 May 2023, 9:00 – 12:30**

**Delivered by: Permanent Representative of Italy Amb. Vincenzo Grassi**

*(Focal point: Daniele Borrelli, First Counsellor)*

Thank you, Mister President.

We thank the distinguished delegation of Botswana for their national report and presentation.

Italy welcomes the ratification of the *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* and the decriminalization of same-sex consensual relations.

Italy would like to recommend to:

* *Adopt a de facto moratorium on capital executions, with a view to fully abolishing death penalty and consider at least abstaining on the UNGA Resolution for a moratorium on the use of death penalty*
* *Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture*
* *Fully implement the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and further national efforts to eradicate gender-based violence*
* *Strengthen efforts to ensure freedom of expression as well as independence and freedom of media. Guarantee a safe and enabling environment for journalists and human rights defenders.*

We wish the delegation of Botswana a successful review.

I thank you.