43rd Session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Botswana

3 May 2023

The Republic of Serbia welcomes the delegation of Botswana at the UPR’s Session and thanks it for presenting its National Report.

Serbia commends Botswana’s dedication to the UPR process and its continued commitment to improve its legal and institutional framework to bring them in line with international human rights instruments and standards. We welcome, in particular, the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2021, advancing the mandate of the Office of the Ombudsman and establishing the Ministry of Justice responsible for strategic and policy guidance on human rights promotion and protection. We also commend Poverty Eradication Programme that provides economic opportunities to the most vulnerable populations, including remote area communities, as well as continued investment in mechanisms for youth empowerment such as the Youth Development Fund.

We recommend to Botswana: to consider evaluating its social protection programmes to enable children living in poverty to have adequate access to social assistance; to develop policies for public schools to teach in minority languages where it is reasonably possible; to continue strengthening its awareness-raising campaigns to combat the stigmatization of and prejudice against children with disabilities.

Serbia wishes Botswana a very successful review.