

*Représentation permanente de la Belgique auprès des Nations Unies et auprès des institutions spécialisées à Genève*

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| **WG UPR 43 – Bahamas**  ***Intervention of Belgium***  3 May 2023 |

President,

Belgium acknowledges the progress made by the Bahamas in different fields since its previous UPR.

However, in order to further increase the protection of human rights, Belgium recommends to:

**R1.** Expedite the passage of the bill to prohibit marital rape in the penal code.

As a strong proponent of abolition of capital punishment, we recommend the government of Bahamas at a minimum to:

**R2**. Reduce the offences for which the death penalty may be imposed to the most serious crimes, in accordance with Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

And to consider further progress on this issue.

Belgium welcomes the ratification of the Convention against torture by the Bahamas in 2018 and recommends to

**R3**. Bring legislation, including the penal code, in line with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

I thank you, President.