**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE REVIEW OF CANADA AT THE 30TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**

*(11 May 2018, Geneva)*

1. **Mr. President,** Botswana warmly welcomes the delegation of Canada to the third cycle of the UPR process. We thank the Delegation for the presentation of a comprehensive national report.
2. We take note of continued efforts by Canada to enact new legislation and revise policies aimed at the protection and promotion of human rights across all sectors of Canadian society. Botswana commends in particular proactive stance adopted by Canada including additional measures undertaken to address racism and discrimination based on cultural, religious and ethnic origins.
3. We therefore, welcome legislative measures outlined in the report such as the Canadian Multicultural Act adopted in 1998 and more recently the Ontario Anti-Racism Act of 2017, both which reaffirm equality of rights regardless of race or religion.
4. It is concerning however, that despite these measures, individuals and groups belonging to indigenous and African Canadian ethnicity continue to experience barriers to equality, including through socio-economic systematic discrimination.
5. In this regard, my delegation requests for an update on the implementation of a recommendation made by Botswana in the previous UPR for Canada to “*strengthen measures to eliminate racial profiling, especially in law enforcement and racial discrimination in employment”.*
6. Allow us to also make the following two recommendations:
7. Adopt specific measures to address racial profiling in law enforcement to prevent arbitrary arrests, stops, searches and investigations and over-incarceration of African Canadians; and
8. Address employment disparity for African Canadians through the enactment of employment equity legislation through targeted hiring policies similar to those for First Nations people.

We wish Canada a successful review outcome.

**I thank you, Mr. President!**