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

(10th May 2018, Geneva)

1. **Mr. President,** Botswana warmly welcomes the delegation of Djibouti to the third cycle of the UPR process. We thank the delegation for a comprehensive national report.
2. Botswana commends Djibouti for her efforts aimed at promoting and protecting the rights of vulnerable members of her society such as women, children and the disabled through Vision 2035, the country’s long term national strategy and the National Strategic Plan for Children of 2017.
3. Botswana also welcomes Djibouti‘s decision to involve traditional legal institutions in the greater promotion and protection of human rights. Botswana encourages Djibouti to take into consideration observations and recommendations made by special mandate holders who visited the country.
4. While we note efforts made by Djibouti in promoting and protecting human rights, we make the following recommendations:
5. step up efforts to reduce high unemployment (41%) and poverty (79.4%) through creating an enabling environment for investment;
6. Endeavour to prevent excessive use of force, arbitrary arrests, torture and ill-treatment of civilians by security forces especially during demonstrations and elections.
7. We wish Djibouti a successful review outcome**.**

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