

**Statement by**

**Dr. Ricardo Kellman**

**Deputy Permanent Representative of Barbados**

**at the review of the Dominican Republic**

**30 January 2019**

Thank you Mr. President.

The delegation of Barbados welcomes the delegation of the Dominican Republic.

We recognise the actions taken by the State, since its last review, to strengthen the national human rights framework. From the National Report it is clear that the Dominican Republic appreciates that accountable and participatory governance is a prerequisite to achieving and maintaining the enjoyment of human rights.

The delegation of Barbados notes that the Dominican Republic has affirmed to the international community, that it is a multi-ethnic and multicultural State and, accordingly, has a duty to strengthen the protection and safeguards that are needed by all victims of discrimination.

Barbados, in a spirit of constructive engagement, therefore offers the following recommendations to the Dominican Republic:

1. continue to promote policies that allow persons to effectively register births in a non-discriminatory manner
2. fulfill its obligations under Article 18 of the Dominican Constitution, whereby those who enjoyed Dominican nationality prior to the 2010 Constitution coming into effect continue to do so.
3. Redouble efforts to address violence and harassment, particularly as they impact women and girls, through the provision of sensitisation and training to law enforcement officials, first responders and other stakeholders.

Barbados wishes the delegation of the Dominican Republic a successful review.

**END**