**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY THE KINGDOM OF ESWATINI: THE UPR OF THE KINGDOM OF LESOTHO: 22ND JANUARY 2020 AT 1430HRS**

Madam President,

The Kingdom of Eswatini welcomes and thanks the delegation of the Kingdom of Lesotho for their comprehensive report, primarily on the implementation of the recommendations from the country’s second cycle review- where 118 recommendations were made of which 96 were accepted.

Lesotho has endeavoured to work in collaboration with the African Union through the African Commission on Human and People’s Rights and SADC (The Southern Africa Development Community). They have made tremendous progress in improving their human rights framework- this was evident from the domestication of core international instruments in particularly, the Convention on the protection of the Rights of all Workers and Migrant workers and their families (CRWM) 2016.

Madam President,

Lesotho is focused on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) specifically the ones related to:

1. Water and sanitation.

Recently, the special rapporteur on safe drinking water and sanitation, visited the country and made a number of recommendations which were subsequently implemented and as we talk today, water in Lesotho is easily available as well as being affordable and safe to drink; for all citizens.

1. Lesotho enacted the Children’s Protection and Welfare Bill which sought to make improvements in the registration process for all children as well as the disability bill of 2016 which seeks to enable all children have the right to education and health.
2. Eswatini Welcomes the re-establishments of the National Human Rights Commission in August 2016 and the National Aids Commission in December 2015.

Eswatini applauds Lesotho, for her readiness to cooperate with the OHCHR and other human rights mechanisms, and encourages Lesotho to continue engagements specially where the rights of children, women, and people living with disabilities are concerned.

In the spirit of constructive criticism, Eswatini would like to know, what has been the main challenges faced by Lesotho in combating domestic violence especially against woman, girls and vulnerable populations and secondly, what have been the challenges in ensuring that all children in Lesotho get adequate education.

Madam President,

Eswatini wishes Lesotho success in her 3rd cycle of the UPR process.

I Thank you.