



Statement of Ireland
43rd session of the UPR Working Group

Review of Botswana

3 May 2023

Ireland welcomes the delegation of Botswana and thanks it for its presentation.

- Ireland acknowledges Botswana's efforts to advance human rights domestically since the last UPR cycle.
- We welcome the signing of the 2030 ESA Ministerial commitment to improve Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights outcomes among young people.
- Ireland is concerned about high levels of violence against women and children, and the lack of specific legislation on marital rape.
- We also regret the continued use of the death penalty.

Recommendations

Ireland recommends Botswana:

1. Strengthen the legal frameworks to protect women and children against violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, including by criminalising marital rape, and ensure the full implementation of the Domestic Violence Act.
2. Abolish the death penalty in law and in practice, including by declaring an official moratorium, ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR and commuting existing death sentences.

We wish Botswana every success in this UPR cycle. Thank you.