



Republic of Botswana

TELEGRAMS: DEFA
TELEPHONE : 3600700
TELEX : 2414 BD
FAX : 3913366

MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
AND COOPERATION
PRIVATE BAG 00368
GABORONE

PRESS RELEASE

HON. EDWIN BATSHU ATTENDS THE 29TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW MECHANISM FROM 15 – 19 JANUARY 2018

12 January 2018, The Ministry of International Affairs and Cooperation wishes to inform that the Honourable Minister of Nationality, Immigration and Gender Affairs, Edwin J. Batshu, will lead the Botswana delegation to the 29th Session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group that will be held in Geneva, Switzerland from 14-20 January 2018.

Honourable Batshu will be presenting the Third National Report on the Review of Botswana, which was prepared in consultation with Non Governmental Organisations and other interest groups. Other than Botswana, 13 other countries will voluntarily deliver their National Human Rights Reports, namely France, Romania, Tonga, Mali, Bahamas, Luxembourg, Burundi, Montenegro, Israel, Liechtenstein, United Arab Emirates, and Serbia. It should be noted that Botswana voluntarily took part in the First (2008) and Second Cycles (2013).

Botswana places great importance on the Human Rights Commission's UPR mechanism. This is a mechanism where 193 United Nations members undergo a voluntary and periodic review process related to human rights in their respective countries, and allows Members States of the United Nations to exchange views and make human rights recommendations to each other in a constructive and equal manner.

Botswana's participation in the UPR is evidence of the strength of Government's commitment to the protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms in Botswana. This also reflects the openness of the Government regarding the human rights situation in the country as well as the strong commitment to pushing for respect for human rights at the national, regional and global levels.

The Honourable Minister and his delegation are expected back in the country on 21st January 2018.

Contact - Public Relations, Research and Information Department
Tel: (267) 3600700 Fax: (267) 3913366
E-Mail: mofaic_prri@gov.bw
Website: www.mofaic.gov.bw

