



**Statement by  
Permanent Mission of The Bahamas to the United Nations Office and Other  
International Organizations in Geneva  
at the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group  
*Presentation of National Report by the Government of Venezuela*  
25 January, 2022**

The Bahamas thanks Venezuela for the national report presented and welcomes the engagement in this UPR process.

We positively acknowledge efforts in the field of human rights despite ongoing challenges in the country.

In a constructive spirit, The Bahamas recommends that Venezuela:

- (i) Takes effective measures to restore the independence of the justice system;
- (ii) Publishes the national budget to allow for public oversight
- (iii) Takes all necessary measures to prevent acts of persecution and targeted repression, including based on political affiliation, and ensures that human rights defenders are protected without discrimination on any grounds

and

- (iv) Investigates allegations of discrimination in access to food assistance and other social protection programmes, guarantees equal access to such programmes and makes transparent the criteria used to determine eligibility

We wish Venezuela every success in this UPR process.

I thank you.