



**Statement by Ms. Sasha Dixon, Counsellor,  
Permanent Mission of The Bahamas to the United Nations Office and other  
International Organizations in Geneva at the  
44th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group  
Presentation of UPR Report by the Government of Colombia  
Tuesday 7 November 2023**

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President.

The Bahamas thanks the delegation of Colombia for its report and commends the progress made by the country since the last review.

Notably, Colombia has made considerable strides towards augmenting a robust foundation for the promotion of human rights in the country, including through the updating of the National Human Rights Education Plan to align with national and international standards, focusing on pedagogical strategies to guarantee respect for human rights in education. The government also extended the mandate of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Colombia until April 4, 2032, indicating a commitment to international cooperation to promote, protect, and fulfil human rights.

Further, Colombia has sought to address the effects of racism, racial discrimination and colonialism on the country's ethnic peoples through the creation of the National Cross-Sectoral Commission for Historical Reparation.

In a constructive spirit, The Bahamas recommends that Colombia:

- (i) Ensure equitable access to healthcare and address healthcare disparities, particularly in rural and marginalized areas
- and
- (ii) Strengthen measures for environmental protection and sustainable development, particularly in regions where environmental resources are at risk, and involve local communities in related decision-making processes.

We wish Colombia a successful UPR.

I thank you.