



**Statement by Mr. Charles Gibson, Second Secretary
Permanent Mission of The Bahamas to the United Nations Office and Other
International Organisations in Geneva
at the 48th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group
Presentation of UPR Report by the Government of *El Salvador*
20 January 2025**

Thank you [Mr./Madame] [Vice] President,

We commend El Salvador for its engagement in the UPR process and for progress made since the last review. We positively acknowledge efforts to align domestic legislation with international human rights standards, through numerous legal reforms and the adoption of policies, such as the National Equality Plan 2021–2025 and the General Act on Water Resources. These are critical steps toward achieving sustainable development and the enjoyment of human rights.

El Salvador's Territorial Control Plan has significantly reduced violence and improved public safety and the government has bolstered women's rights through specialized courts and policies addressing violence and gender equity.

We also welcome advancements in addressing climate change, including the adoption of the National Climate Change Plan 2022.

To build on progress made, we respectfully recommend that El Salvador:

1. Prioritize fulfillment of the right to water for all, including for communities in rural areas, Indigenous Peoples and communities of people of African descent as well as in educational and prison facilities;
 2. Promote climate change education policies within the framework of the Greening Education Partnership
- and
3. Adopt and implement a comprehensive national strategy to combat discrimination against people of African descent, including public awareness campaigns, to promote tolerance and respect for diversity and inclusive of targeted measures to reduce poverty and inequality in Afro-descendent communities.

We wish El Salvador every success in this UPR process.

I thank you.

Speaking time allotted: 1 minute 35 seconds