



**Statement by H.E. Patricia A. Hermanns, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva at the 49th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group
Presentation of National Report by the Government of Guyana
Tuesday, 6 May, 2025**

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

The Bahamas warmly welcomes our fellow CARICOM delegation of Guyana and commends the country for its significant achievements since the last review, including the establishment of the National Mechanism for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRF), which enhances coordination for human rights reporting and implementation. We also acknowledge Guyana's notable legislative advancements, particularly the passage of the Family Violence Act, 2024, and the Combating Trafficking in Persons Act, 2023, underscoring its firm commitment to protecting vulnerable populations.

Recognizing our shared vulnerability to climate-related challenges, we particularly commend Guyana's pioneering achievements in climate resilience, notably becoming the first developing nation to submit a Biennial Transparency Report to the UNFCCC, and the transparent issuance of TREES carbon credits supporting indigenous communities.

To support continued progress, The Bahamas respectfully recommends that Guyana:

- (i) Build on efforts to combat GBV by expanding survivor support services and strengthening law enforcement capacity through the CopSquad Initiative;
- (ii) Further expand digital connectivity and educational infrastructure, ensuring equal access to quality education, particularly for hinterland and remote communities;
- (iii) Enhance infrastructure resilience and disaster preparedness, particularly addressing vulnerabilities of coastal and hinterland communities exposed to climate change risks.

We wish Guyana continued success in pursuing its human rights and sustainable development objectives and call upon the international community to support these commendable efforts.

I thank you.

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