



**Statement by Ms. Sasha Dixon, Counsellor
Permanent Mission 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 Lesotho
30 April, 2025**

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

The Bahamas warmly welcomes the delegation of Lesotho and commends the country on its continued engagement with the UPR process. We positively recognize progress made since the last review, notably the establishment of a National Mechanism for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up (NMIRF), the adoption of the Persons with Disability Equity Act (2021), and the significant investment in social protection programmes, through the National Social Protection Strategy II. We also commend Lesotho's efforts to expand access to safe drinking water under the Lowlands Water Development Project, and initiatives undertaken to build resilience against climate change.

To support further progress, The Bahamas respectfully recommends that Lesotho:

- (i) Strengthen efforts to reduce maternal mortality by improving access to quality pre- and post-natal care, particularly in rural areas;
- (ii) Build on ongoing efforts with international partners to strengthen climate-resilient agriculture and improve rural livelihoods and
- (iii) Increase investment in inclusive education to ensure full access for children with disabilities and those in remote communities.

We wish Lesotho every success as the country pursues its human rights and development goals.

I thank you.

184 words

(Speaking time allocated: 1 minute 20 seconds = approx. 170 words)