



36th Session of the Human Rights Council

Item 6 – UPR Outcomes South Africa

22nd September 2017

Statement by: International Lesbian and Gay Association

Delivered by: Diana Carolina Prado Mosquera

Thank you, Mr. President,

This statement is delivered in consultation with Gender Dynamix, IRANTI.org, Legal Resource Centre and Aids Rights Alliance in Southern Africa, organizations that work on the subject of Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression as well as the promotion of Human Rights for the LGBTI community in South Africa.

We acknowledge the commitment of South Africa to its international human rights obligations as well as the promotion and the protection of fundamental freedoms and human rights of LGBTI persons and we take note with appreciation that the government accepted all the 7 SOGIESC recommendations proposed during this third UPR cycle.

We observe with gratitude the effort the government has taken to continue its engagement with civil society organizations in the implementation of the previous and current recommendations through the establishment of the National Task Team. While we certainly welcome civil society engagement in the process, we wish to make a note that the intersex and transgender community representation in the National Aids Commission is missing, a barrier to addressing specific health related issues and services.

We urge the state to support civil society organizations on public education campaigns to combat hate speech and social stigmatization of transgender and intersex people and take effective measures to increase tolerance and social inclusion in South African society as these human rights organizations only rely on limited donor funding.

We wish to thank US, Chile, Belgium, Argentina, Israel, Netherlands and Sweden who raised specific issues on sexual orientation, gender identity and expression with South Africa in this review and we stand ready to continue working with South African government to ensure that there are many more advances for the rights of transgender and intersex persons in years ahead.

I Thank you Mr. President