

## REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

## STATEMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA TO THE UNITED NATIONS DELIVERED BY MARY NAMONO KIBERE OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF UGANDA TO THE UN IN GENEVA

AT THE 58<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL, GENEVA

ON THE AGENDA ITEM 2

INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE ON ERITREA

**THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2025** 

[Please check against delivery]

## Mr. President,

We wish to underline at the outset, the importance of this Human Rights Council maintaining a constructive, non-confrontational, non-politicized, and non-selective dialogue with all States.

We believe that positive engagement and cooperation of the HRC with concerned countries including Eritrea is productive and an effective means of promotion and protection of human rights.

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in our view, is the primary mechanism to address member states fulfilment of their human rights obligations in an equal manner. In this regard, we applaud the recent participation of Eritrea in the fourth UPR cycle.

It was a clear demonstration by the Eritrean Government of its readiness to continue cooperation with human rights mechanisms to address the human rights situation of her people.

The experience has shown clearly that imposition of mandates on countries without their respective consent is counterproductive and will continue to be so and should be avoided.

Uganda therefore implores this Council to prioritize dialogue and engagement with the Government of Eritrea to pave a path to sustainable promotion and protection of human rights.

Thank you.