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**Statement by Mr Elias Jaime Zimba to the UPR on The Netherlands
Minister Plenipotentiary**

Thank you Madame Chair for giving me the floor,

Mozambique wishes to warmly welcome Her Excellency Lisbeth Spies, Minister of Interior and Kingdom Relations of the Netherlands, and her delegation to Universal Periodic Review. My delegation also wish to congratulate her for the brilliant manner in which she conveyed to us the information on the on-going efforts in her country for the protection and promotion of Human Rights.

The Netherlands is one of the countries with which Mozambique maintains close ties of cooperation, including in the domain of Human Rights.

Like many other delegations, I would also like to commend the Netherlands for the implementation of the accepted recommendations from the last Universal Periodic Review.

In the process, many initiatives and actions have been undertaken to enhance the scope and to strengthen the protection and enjoyment of the Human rights, especially, the Rights of the Women, the Rights of the Child, the Rights of the Minorities and for the fostering of the notion of diversity and pluralism as the value of the Dutch society.

It is noteworthy that the Netherlands has defined the eradication of trafficking in Human beings as one of the Government priorities and, for the renewal of the mandate of the Task Force on Human Trafficking.

Significantly enough the Netherlands has decided to expand the mandate of the National Rapporteur on trafficking in Human Beings to include child pornography, where special attention has been given to trafficking of children.

Mozambique praises the Netherlands for the establishment of a National Institute for Human Rights which will operate in accordance with the Paris Principles.

The kingdom has created the Office of Ombudsmen specifically for children, as an important step for the protection and promotion of the Rights of the Child. It is remarkable that the country is expanding the notion of the establishment of the office of Ombudsmen to areas of the Kingdom where previously did not exist previously.

Mozambique wishes to compliment the Netherlands for having ratified the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, The Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, as well as the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict.

My delegation feels encouraged by the Netherlands announcement that preparations are underway for the approval by the Parliament of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Protocol.

Mozambique would like to encourage the Netherlands to consider withdrawing its reservations to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. I thank you

Geneva, 01 June 2012