



Republic of Zambia

## ZAMBIA'S STATEMENT ON THE OCCASION OF UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF BHUTAN – 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2014

Thank you Mr. President,

Zambia welcomes the delegation of the Royal Government of Bhutan and congratulates the Kingdom for successfully holding the General Elections in 2013. We commend His Excellency <sup>Mr.</sup> Lyompo Damchoe Dorji, Honourable Minister of Home and Cultural Affairs for presenting a well articulated national report, outlining a series of achievements made by the government of Bhutan in promoting and protecting human rights since the last review in 2009.

The commitments worth noting include the inclusive methodology and consultative process in preparing the national report and the enactment of numerous legislation, bordering on the promotion and protection of human rights. This signifies Bhutani's determination and unwavering commitment in ensuring the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Bhutan is also commended for her efforts in the

provision of free healthcare services, education and the protection of the marginalized.

Zambia would like to encourage the Royal Government of Bhutan to continue with its efforts in the promotion and protection of the human rights of the people and recommends that the Royal Government of Bhutan considers ratifying and implementing international human rights treaties such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, acceding to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and to continue with her efforts in ensuring promotion and protection of the rights of Migrants, Refugees and Asylum seekers especially those already in camps.

Further, Zambia recommends that the Royal Government of Bhutan consider prohibition of the use of corporal punishment of children in all setting.

We, wish the delegation of Bhutan the very best and success during this Universal Periodic Review.

I thank you.