MISSÃO PERMANENTE DE MOÇAMBIQUE JUNTO DAS NAÇÕES UNIDAS E DE OUTRAS ORGANIZAÇÕES INTERNACIONAIS EM GENEBRA



PERMANENT MISSION OF MOZAMBIQUE TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA

Statement by Mr. Jaime Chissano, Minister Counselor of Mozambique Permanent Mission to the United Nations Office and Other International Organizations in Geneva, to the 19th Session of the UPR Working Group on Equatorial Guinea

Thank you, Mr. President, for giving us the floor.

At the outset, we would like to warmly welcome and thank the delegation of Equatorial Guinea for the presentation of its National Report to the country's second Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

The report outlines, in a comprehensive manner, the activities undertaken by the Government in the implementation of recommendations from the previous UPR. It is to be recalled that the country had accepted 86 and had undertaken to consider 28 recommendations.

It is noteworthy that in the process of developing and strengthening the human rights institutions, Equatorial Guinea appointed a Deputy Prime Minister solely in charge of Human Rights, apart from setting up the Office of the Ombudsman under the 2012 Constitutional reforms. Such measures testify the resolve of the country in promoting the enjoyment of human rights by all Guinean people.

Mozambique takes note with encouragement the declaration of a moratorium on death penalty by the Government, following a study commissioned on the matter.

Finally, we would like to offer the following recommendations to Equatorial Guinea:

- 1. To speed up the process of bringing the National Human Rights Commission in line with the Paris Principles, so as to strengthen its mandate; and
- 1. To commission further studies on the issue of death penalty, in view of its abolishment.

We thank you for your kind attention Geneva, 5th May 2014