

 **STATEMENT BY MAURITIUS AT THE 24TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP-**

**CONSIDERATION OF THE UPR REPORT OF MOZAMBIQUE**

**19 January 2016**

**Mr President,**

**My delegation thanks H.E. Mr Abdurremane Lino de Almeida, Minister of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs for the detailed presentation of the national report of Mozambique.**

**Mauritius commends Mozambique for its commitment to promote and protect the fundamental rights of its people through the ongoing reform measures aimed at reducing poverty, eliminating discrimination against women, increase access to sanitation and potable water, better health services for its citizens, among others.**

**We welcome the establishment of the Human Rights Commission and the Ombudsman Office. We encourage Mozambique to strengthen the capacity of these institutions to enable them to effectively carry out their roles and mandates to promote human rights.**

**We acknowledge the ongoing efforts to harmonise domestic laws with international obligations, in particular, the adoption of the new Penal Code with improved compliance to women and children´s rights. The adoption of the Access to Information Bill, when enacted, will consolidate the rights of the citizens of Mozambique. We also note that Mozambique has ratified OPCAT and the CRPD and fulfilled its reporting exercise to the other human rights treaties since its first UPR review.**

**Mauritius recommends that Mozambique further considers initiative to improve access to education for girls.**

**We wish Mozambique a successful review.**

**I thank you, Mr President.**