

*Statement by the Republic of Cyprus on*

**Mozambique**

Mr. President,

Cyprus welcomes the participation of the Republic of Mozambique in the 2<sup>nd</sup> UPR Cycle and thanks the country's authorities for the comprehensive national report submitted, as well as for its presentation before us today.

Our delegation acknowledges the measures taken by the Government of Mozambique since the country's last review, which aim at improving the implementation of international human rights obligations. In particular, we commend the country's accession to a number of international human rights instruments and welcome the adoption of a new Penal Code, reinforcing the legal framework for the protection of women and children's rights. We do however remain concerned by the overall situation concerning gender-based discrimination and violence.

Cyprus has the following two recommendations to make for the consideration of Mozambique:

1. Take appropriate action in order to combat all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls.
2. Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

I thank you.