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24th Session of the Universal Periodic Review Working Group

(18 - 29 January 2016)

Statement of Portugal

Mozambique

Courtesy translation

Mr. President,

It is for me a great honour to warmly welcome, expressing myself in our common mother tongue, the Portuguese, the Delegation of Mozambique, headed by His Excellency the Minister of Justice, Constitutional and Religious Affairs, Abdurremane Lino de Almeida, and thanks for the presentation of the second UPR report, highlighting the commitment of Mozambique to the respect of human rights.

I would like to congratulate Mozambique for the revision of the Penal Code which, for the first time, foresees, amongst others, the crimes of trafficking in human beings, kidnapping, lynching and child pornography. In order to guarantee the implementation of the above mentioned revision, we recommend that Mozambique prioritize the adoption of the revision of the Code of Criminal Procedure and the training of justice officials.

Portugal also welcomes the creation of the Intergovernmental Commission for the Protection of Persons with Albinism, with the aim of putting an end to the aggressions faced by these persons, and with the immediate response of the authorities to tackle this situation. In this context, we recommend that Mozambique continue to intensify its efforts to fight against this form of violence.

Portugal recognizes the importance of the adoption of the Law of Access to Information, as well as the approval of the National Strategy of Prevention and Combat of Early and Forced Marriages and recommends their implementation.

The adoption of the Anti-Corruption package represents a relevant step forward in the Mozambican legal order. In this framework, Portugal recommends the development of means, which allow for the assessment and measuring of the dimension of the phenomena of corruption in the country.

Finally, Portugal recommends that Mozambique ratify the International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and its Optional Protocol, as well as the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure.

Thank you very much.