

**STATEMENT BY ZIMBABWE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 2ND CYCLE UPR
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE: 19 JANUARY 2016**

Mr President,

Zimbabwe welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Mozambique and thanks them for their report, which mainly reflects the progress that the country has made in implementing the recommendations arising from its 1st cycle UPR.

Mozambique has created the Operational Matrix of the UPR Action Plan – Mozambique 2012-2015, designed to ensure that the recommendations are implemented in a strategic, systematic and holistic manner. Through this approach the country has managed to implement about 90% of those recommendations.

In the area of education, Mozambique has expanded school enrolment countrywide and put in place measures to close the enrolment gap between girls and boys. One aspect of note is the introduction of the “civil and moral education” course that includes the teaching on human rights in the curriculum.

Mozambique has also made good progress with regards to women’s rights and their representation in public life. Action in this regard is underpinned by the Constitution that emphasises “the equality in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life” and the Gender Policy and Implementation Strategy.

Regarding its international obligations, the country has, since its last review, ratified the Convention on the Protection of the Rights of Migrant Workers and Members of their Families and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

It is recommended that Mozambique strengthens its on-going Public Education Programme on Human Rights by *inter alia*, updating the school curriculum and expanding public awareness countrywide.

Thank you Mr President.