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MISSÃO PERMANENTE DE
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UNIDAS E DE OUTRAS
ORGANIZAÇÕES INTERNACIONAIS EM
GENEVA



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

**Statement by H.E. Pedro Comissário, Permanent
Representative of the Republic of Mozambique to the
United Nations Office in Geneva and other
International Organizations, at the 24rd Session of the
UPR Working Group on Sierra Leone**

Geneva, 27th January 2016

Mr. President!

We wish to welcome the distinguished delegation of Sierra Leone and congratulate **HE Joseph Fitzgerald Kamara**, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, for the presentation of their country's comprehensive report to the Second Cycle of Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

The report eloquently outlines the actions undertaken by the country in the implementation of the accepted 101 recommendations from the previous UPR, amid the **Ebola Virus Disease (EVD)**, which Sierra Leone, with the support of the International Community, succeeded in halting. Therefore, we warmly commend the People and the Government of Sierra Leone for this remarkable achievement.

Notwithstanding the EVD plight, which threatened the very existence of this sister Country, we applaud Sierra Leone for having

ratified the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment **(CAT)** and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on Civil and Political Rights **(OP-CCPR)**, since the first review.

We take note of the efforts the country has made to tackle Gender Based Violence (GBV), as well as the Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), through the adoption of specific legislation, programs and strategies.

We salute the moratorium on the death penalty, in the light of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) relevant resolution, but we would recommend further steps aiming at its abolition.

To conclude, Mr. President, we join those who have appealed to the International Community to redouble its multifaceted assistance to Sierra Leone, so as to help the country to fully get back to its feet, in the aftermath of the EVD.

We wish Sierra Leone every success in the present UPR exercise.

We thank you

Geneva, 27th January 2016