**STATEMENT BY ZIMBABWE ON THE OCCASION OF THE UPR OF THE KINGDOM OF SWAZILAND: 10 MAY 2016**

Mr President,

Zimbabwe welcomes the delegation of the Kingdom of Swaziland to the country’s 2nd cycle UPR and takes note of the progress it has made in the implementation of the recommendations arising from the 1st cycle review.

Swaziland has put in place an institutional framework to improve the promotion and protection of human rights, which include the Commission on Human Rights and Public Administration. The Commission now has a fully functional Secretariat and it is expected that it will henceforth be able to effectively deliver on its mandate.

The Government of Swaziland has also enacted laws designed to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights. These include the People Trafficking and People Smuggling Act and the Child Protection and Welfare Act. Under a Social Protection Programme, within the realm of the latter, the Government offers an Orphan and Vulnerable Children’s education grant. In addition, the Government has introduced free primary education for all children in line with the Free Primary Education Act.

Regarding its international obligations, Swaziland has ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol and the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict and the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Pornography, respectively.

In terms of recommendations, we urge Swaziland to work towards improving its Treaty Body reporting obligations.

Thank you, Mr President.