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**26th  Session of the WG on the UPR**

**UPR II of Zimbabwe**

**Statement**

**of**

**Mr. LjupcoGjorgjinski**

**Minister Counsellor**

***Chargé d’affairesa.i.***

Geneva, November 2, 2016

Thank you Mr. Vice President,

The Republic of Macedonia welcomes the delegation of Zimbabwe headed by HE Vice President Mr.Mnangagwa and thanks them for the presentation of their national report for the Second UPR Cycle.

We welcome Zimbabwe’s ratification of important international documentssince their first UPR in 2011, as well as continued legislative and institutional improvements at the national level to promote and protect Human Rights.

The Republic of Macedonia commendsthe Government’s cooperation with international treaty bodies in the domain of HRs.

We note with appreciation the adoption of a new Constitution with an expansive Declaration of Rights, that strengthened the institutional framework for the promotion and protection of human rights by either establishing new institutions or strengthening existing ones.

As regards to the new2013 Constitution provisions that protect women’s rights and prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender, the Republic of Macedonia is nevertheless concerned that obstacles to the advancement of women remains in the areas of public and professional life, as well as in decision-making positions, including the judiciary, local government and the private sector.The Republic of Macedonia encourages the Government of Zimbabwe to give high priority to the process of fully incorporating CEDAW into its legal framework and practice.

We would like to ask the Delegation of Zimbabwe the following:

* While noting the efforts that the Government of Zimbabwe is making in order to prohibit torture, other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, please provide us with an update on the measures the Government has taken to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol and adopt concrete measures to stop torture?
* Despite accepting the recommendations to consider abolishing the death penalty and introducing a moratorium on executions, Zimbabwe onlyabolished the death sentence for women and those under the age of 21 and above 70 years in its new Constitution. What measure is Zimbabwe further planning to take in view of completely abolishing the death penalty?

We have two specific recommendations to offer for consideration:

* To ratify CAT and the OP-CEDAW
* To completely abolish the death penalty.

We wish Zimbabwe a successful review during this UPR cycle.

Thank you, Mr. President.