

Statement by H.E. Archbishop Ivan Jurkovič, Permanent Representative of the Holy See to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva at the United Nations Human Rights Council - 26th Session of the Universal Periodic Review

**Republic of Zimbabwe**

*2 November 2016*

Mr. President,

The Holy See Delegation welcomes the Delegation of Zimbabwe on the occasion of the presentation of its second National Report to the Universal Periodic Review.

My Delegation acknowledges the various efforts made by Zimbabwe to guarantee effectively the implementation of human rights through the launch of the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (Zim-ASSET). We are glad to note the attention given to provide access to education for all through the Non-Formal Education Policy,as well the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act and the creation of the Inter-Ministerial Task Force on Human Trafficking.

My Delegation would like to present the following recommendations:

1. To continue efforts to implement the Zim-ASSET, in order to improve economic development and to enhance peace and security.
2. To continue efforts to align training programs of all government officials with international human rights law and incorporate more training in child rights in professional development courses.
3. To reinforce policies to ensure that all children born in Zimbabwe, regardless of their parents’ origins, are issued with birth certificates.

Thank you, Mr President