

  **EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS & PERMANENT MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS**

 **AMBASSADE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DE MAURICE ET MISSION PERMANENTE AUPRES DES NATIONS UNIES**

 **ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES**

**Universal Periodic Review of South Africa**

**10 May 2017**

**Statement by Mauritius**

Mr. President,

The Mauritius delegation welcomes and thanks the delegation of South Africa for the presentation of its UPR Report.

We commend South Africa for its strong commitment to human rights as evidenced by the policies, legislative enactments and programmes that it has initiated to implement its 2nd UPR recommendations and fulfill its international human rights obligations.

We also welcome the initiatives of South Africa to develop a national action plan against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and to draft a bill on the prevention and combating of hate crimes and hate speeches.

Mauritius congratulates South Africa for ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) in 2015.

Finally, we note that South Africa proposes to establish mandatory retirement benefits for all working persons who retire due to old age or disability. In this regard, we recommend South Africa to expedite the necessary consultative and legislative processes.

We wish South Africa a successful review

Thank you, Mr. President.