**Statement by H.E. Mrs. Julia Imene-Chanduru, Ambassador/Permanent Representative, during the Interactive Dialogue on the Universal Periodic Review of the Russian Federation, 13 November 2023**

1. **Thank you, Mr. President,**
2. Namibia warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of the Russian Federation and thank them for preparing a comprehensive national report as well as for additional information provided today.
3. **Mr President,**
4. We commend the Russian Federation for the positive human rights impacting measures taken during the period under review, which includes the appointment of the Commissioner for Human Rights and the efforts of this institution in the area of international cooperation in the field of human rights. We further applaud the continued efforts of the Russian Federation to counter racism, racial discrimination and other forms of intolerance in sports.
5. There, however, remains room for improvement and in the spirit of constructive dialogue, we make the following recommendations for consideration by the Russian Federation:
   1. Accelerate the adoption of the Draft Federal Act on the mandate and activities of the National Human Rights Institution and ensure its independence in line with the Paris Principles; and
   2. Develop and implement concrete measures to address hate crimes.
   3. We wish the delegation of the Russian Federation a successful review.
6. **Thank you, Mr. President.**