**STATEMENT BY MRS. LAURINDA SAIDE BANZE, COUNSELLOR/HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERT AT THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE 45TH SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP ON CONGO**

**GENEVA, FEBRUARY 30, 2024**

**Mr. President,**

Mozambique warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Congo and thanks them for the presentation on the action taken to implement the recommendations received during its third UPR.

My delegation commends Congo for the progress achieved since the last review process, particularly, its ratification and adherence to several international legal instruments.

In a constructive spirit, Mozambique offers to Congo the following recommendations:

1. Continue efforts to promote gender issues and eliminate all forms of gender-based discrimination.
2. Strengthen measures to combat all forms of trafficking of persons, especially women and children

Mozambique wishes Congo a successful review.

**Thank you, Mr President.**