

**ZAMBIA’S STATEMENT DURING THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE CONGO**

**TO BE DELIVERED ON 30TH JANUARY 2024**

**Mr. President,**

Zambia warmly welcomes the delegation of the Congo to the fourth cycle of the UPR and thanks them for the presentation of their national report.

We commend the Congo on the measures put in place to improve its national human rights situation since its last UPR.

Zambia wishes to recommend the following to the delegation of the Congo:

1. Adopt a comprehensive definition of discrimination against women in line with Article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women;
2. Revise the minimum age for marriage from 16 to 18 and repeal the exception that allows marriages for children below the age of 16 with the consent of a Judge;
3. Introduce legislation and policies to protect children with albinism.

We wish the Congo a successful review.

I thank you Mr. President.