**STATEMENT BY MS LAURINDA BANZE, COUNSELLOR, HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERT OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF MOZAMBIQUE, TO THE 48TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW WORKING GROUP ON**

**ITALY**

**GENEVA, 20 JANUARY 2025**

**Mr. President**

Mozambique warmly welcomes the high-level delegation of Italy and thanks them for the comprehensive presentation of the human rights situation in the country and on the efforts made to implement the recommendations received in the previous cycle.

In a constructive spirit, my delegation proposes the following recommendations to Italy:

1. Improve the conditions for the reception, treatment and integration of migrants and refugees.
2. Implement additional measures to combat gender-based violence, promote equal pay and increase female representation in leadership positions; and
3. Improve accessibility, social inclusion and employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

Mozambique wishes Italy a successful UPR process.

**Thank you, Mr. President**