**Statement by H.E. Mrs. Julia Imene-Chanduru, Ambassador/Permanent Representative, during the Interactive Dialogue on the Universal Periodic Review of Niger, 03 May 2021**

**Thank you, Madam President,**

1. Namibia warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Niger and thank them for preparing a comprehensive national report as well as for their commitment to the UPR process.

**Madam President,**

1. We commend Niger for the positive human rights impacting measures taken during the period under review, which include the accession to several international instruments and the adoption of a number of national laws aimed at improving the human rights of its citizens. As an abolitionist State, Namibia is also pleased to note that the death penalty has not been applied in Niger since 21 April 1976.
2. There, however, remains room for improvement and in the spirit of constructive dialogue, we make the following recommendations for consideration by Niger:
   1. Continue taking steps to accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and
   2. Ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa
   3. We wish the delegation of Niger a successful review.

**I thank you, Madam President.**