**STATEMENT BY BOTSWANA DURING THE 3RD REVIEW OF REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE AT THE 38TH SESSION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR)**

 4 May 2021

1. Madam President, Botswana warmly welcomes the delegation of the Republic of Mozambique to the third cycle of the UPR process. We thank the delegation for the presentation of their comprehensive national report.
2. We note with appreciation measures undertaken to implement recommendations from the last cycle. The reform of the Justice Administration System, including review of the Criminal Procedure Code and the Penal Code as well as improvements to the functions of the Human Rights Commission and Ombudsman are among the notable achievements.
3. Specific to our accepted recommendation on children’s rights, we note with appreciation that in addition to ratifying international instruments to protect against child labour, Mozambique has also set a legal minimum age for employment in line with international standards and approved a list of hazardous work not suitable for children and young workers.
4. While noting the implementation of many previous recommendations, we note challenges that still remain and in that regard, make the following two recommendations:
5. Adopt a comprehensive and multi-sectoral approach to combat discriminatory gender stereotypes, including harmful practices such as female genital mutilation and child marriages.
6. Intensify efforts aimed at mitigating against climate change and natural disasters, including through the effective implementation of the Master Plan For Disaster Risk Reduction 2017-2030

We wish Mozambique a successful review outcome.

I thank you, Madam President