**STATEMENT BY ZIMBABWE ON THE OCCASION OF THE THIRD CYCLE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE REPUBLIC OF SEYCHELLES: 10 MAY 2021**

Thank you, Madam President,

Zimbabwe welcomes and thanks the delegation of Seychelles for their report.

During the period under review, important developments took place in Seychelles, including the following: enactment of new pieces of legislation and amendments, such as the Access to Information Act; Seychelles Human Rights Commission Act that created the independent Human Rights Commission; Children Amendment Act, providing for greater protection of children, including through the abolition of corporal punishment; and the Domestic Violence Act, which among others, provides for the protection of victims.

Regarding its international obligations, it is noteworthy that Seychelles is now party to all nine core international human rights Treaties. The country also continues to work towards fulfilling its reporting obligations to relevant UN Treaty Bodies.

My delegation recommends that Seychelles:

* Accelerates work towards incorporating provisions of the international human rights Treaties to which it is a party; and
* Expand the sensitisation programme on the prevention and combating of child abuse to all corners of the country.

I thank you, Madam President.