**Statement by the Delegation of Thailand**

**Mr. Rongvudhi Virabutr**

**Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative,**

**Chargé d’affaires a.i.**

**at the Review of Zimbabwe**

**during the 40th Session of the Working Group on the UPR**

**on Wednesday, 26 January 2022, 09.00-12.30 hrs.**

**(Speaker Number: 60 / Speaking Time: 1 minute and 5 seconds)**

Mr. President,

Thailand welcomes the progress made by Zimbabwe since the second UPR cycle, in particular in the area of women’s rights through the adoption of Domestic Violence Act that criminalizes female genital mutilation and any other forms of violence.

While commending Zimbabwe’s efforts in combating HIV/AIDS, Thailand notes that the prevalence of HIV remains high. We, therefore, recommend Zimbabwe to strengthen its efforts in enhancing access to prevention and early detection programmes for women and girls at risk.

Furthermore, Thailand recommends the Government of Zimbabwe to redouble its efforts to ensure access to food, quality health services and education, especially for the vulnerable groups, such as older persons, children, the chronically ill and persons with disabilities, both in the context of response to COVID-19 and beyond.

I thank you.

*(130 words)*