

**Statement by India at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group 40th Session (24 January – 04 February 2022) : 3rd UPR of Zimbabwe - Interactive Dialogue, delivered by Ms. Seema Pujani, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India [Geneva, 26 January 2022]**

**Mr. President**,

We warmly welcome the presentation by the delegation of Zimbabwe.

2. We commend Zimbabwe for the initiatives and measures taken by it to promote and protect human rights since the last review in November 2016. We note with appreciation the implementation of Vision 2030, the National Development Strategy, the National Health Strategy, the National Disability Policy and measures for protection of children online.

3. In the spirit of constructive cooperation, India recommends the following to Zimbabwe:

1. Consider strengthening the National Human Rights Institution, the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission, in accordance with the Paris Principles, and ensuring its independence;
2. Ensure legislative and policy measures to criminalise child marriage and punish the perpetrators; and,
3. Continue with measures to combat gender-based violence and discrimination.

4. We wish the delegation of Zimbabwe all the success in its review.

**Thank you, Mr. President.**