**STATEMENT BY MRS. LAURINDA BANZE, COUNSELLOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA TO THE 42nd SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP ON GHANA**

**GENEVA, 24 JANUARY 2023**

Mr President,

Let me warmly welcome and thank the distinguished delegation of the Republic of Ghana for the presentation of their National Report to the 4th UPR Cycle.

Mozambique delegation praises the Government of Ghana for the actions taken to alleviate and reduce poverty, particularly through the creation of the Livelihood Empowerment Programme against poverty. We also applaud the current process to establish a Committee on Human Rights in the Ghana Parliament to deal with all human rights related issues.

In the spirit of friendship and cooperation, my delegation would like to recommend Ghana to consider the following:

1. To take further legal steps to abolish death penalty;

2. To continue expanding programmes to ensure birth registration particularly at the remote rural areas;

3. To reinforce the implementation of policies aimed to end child, early and forced marriages.

Mozambique wishes Ghana every success in this UPR cycle!

Thank you Mr President.