**43RD SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP**

**REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI**

**4 May 2023**

**Speaking time: 01 minute and 10 seconds**

**STATEMENT BY**

**AMBASSADOR STUART H. COMBERBACH**

**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ZIMBABWE**

**Thank you, Mr. President,**

Zimbabwe welcomes the Hon. Minister of Burundi and her esteemed delegation and congratulate them on the presentation of their national report to the fourth cycle of the UPR process.

We commend Burundi for adopting a raft of laws and measures aimed at strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights. We welcome the strengthening of national human rights institutions and mechanisms, including the establishment of the department for the prevention of gender-based violence and holistic care of victims.

In the spirit of positive engagement, Zimbabwe makes the following recommendations for Burundi’s consideration:

1. Continue to co-operate with the United Nations country team in Burundi and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to fulfil national and international human rights obligations.
2. Accelerate the implementation of the National Development Plan 2018 to 2027, taking positive steps to promote the rights of the people of Burundi, including the rights of vulnerable groups such as the poor, women and youth.

We wish the Republic of Burundi a successful review.

**I thank you, Mr. President**