**STATEMENT BY MRS. LAURINDA SAIDE BANZE, COUNSELLOR/HUMAN RIGHTS EXPERT AT THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE TO THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN GENEVA AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO THE 43rd SESSION OF THE UPR WORKING GROUP ON BARBADOS**

**GENEVA, MAY 5, 2023**

**Mr. President,**

Mozambique warmly welcomes and thanks the delegation of Barbados for the submission of their 4th Cycle of the UPR Report.

We commend Barbados for the ongoing actions in the country, in particular with regard to the issue of equal rights between men and women, embodied by the election in 2018 and subsequent re-election in 2022 of a female Prime Minister.

In the spirit of cooperation, Mozambique offers to Barbados the following recommendations:

1. To take steps to accede to the 1961 Convention on the reduction of statelessness and take all steps necessary to implement it.
2. To strengthen the measures to combat human trafficking, and
3. To continue with the efforts to address the issue of maternal mortality in the country.

Mozambique wishes Barbados every success in the present UPR process.

**Thank you, Mr President!**