**STATEMENT BY ZIMBABWE ON THE OCCASION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: 8 NOVEMBER 2018**

Thank you, Mr. President,

Zimbabwe welcomes and thanks the delegation of the Central African Republic for their national report.

During the period under review, a number of pieces of legislation were adopted, including those operationalising the Constitution of 30 March 2016 and establishing the National Commission on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.

In addition, the Government has adopted a number of policy measures such as the national recovery and peace building plan (2017-2021) and the national education sector strategy (2008-2020).

My delegation recommends that the Central African Republic:

* Guarantees the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups such as women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons; and
* Consolidates the education system through, *inter alia*, early childhood development and provision of universal primary schooling.

I thank you, Mr. President.