**STATEMENT BY ZIMBABWE ON THE OCCASION OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHAD: 13 NOVEMBER 2018**

Thank you, Mr. President,

Zimbabwe welcomes and thanks the Chadian delegation for their national report.

It is noteworthy that during the period under review, the National Human Rights Commission was reformed in terms of its responsibilities, organisation and functioning.

Furthermore, the Government adopted the National Development Plan (2017-2021). Two of the priorities defined in the Plan concern human rights, namely, to improve the health and education systems, and to combat poverty and improve living standards. For instance, in terms of the latter, the Government has created a microcredit fund for women and young people.

My delegation recommends that Chad:

* Scales up the fight against poverty and social inequalities and exclusion; and
* Strengthens the promotion and protection of the rights of the most vulnerable groups such as women, youth and persons with disabilities.

I thank you, Mr. President.