**Statement by H.E. Pendapala A. Naanda, Ambassador/Permanent Representative, during the Interactive Dialogue on the Universal Periodic Review of the Arab Republic of Egypt, 13 November 2019**

1. **Thank you, Mr. President,**
2. We warmly welcome the distinguished delegation of Egypt and thank them for preparing a comprehensive national report as well as for their commitment to the UPR process.
3. Namibia acknowledges the positive human rights impact measures taken by Egypt during the period under review. We are particularly pleased to note of the measures taken by Egypt to promote and protect the rights of women and children, which amongst others, include the launching of the national strategy for childhood and motherhood, and the withdrawal of the reservation to article 21 (2) of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.
4. There, however, remains room for improvement, and the spirit of constructive dialogue, Namibia, therefore, makes the following two recommendations for consideration by Egypt.
   1. Repeal or Amend the Personal Status Law to ensure the equal rights of women and men in all matters relating to marriage and family relations as well as to inheritance, divorce and custody of children.
   2. Accede to the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa
5. We wish the delegation of Egypt a successful review.
6. **I thank you, Mr. President.**