**34th Session of the Universal Periodic Review**

**Review of ANGOLA**

7 November 2019

**Statement by Austria**

We welcome the delegation of Angola and thank them for the presentation of their national report.

Austria values Angola’s recent accession to key human rights conventions [on the abolition of the capital punishment, the eradication of torture and the elimination of all forms of racism].

We also commend Angola for the initiative to revise legislation to strengthen the judicial system and foster accessibility. Yet shortcomings [in the judicial system] still remain, leading to the imprisonment of peoplewithout due access to justice.

We are also concerned about widespread violence against women and children in the country.

Austria welcomes the commitment by the Government to eradicate extreme poverty. We therefore would like to highlight the situation of orphans and homeless children. They often lack access to education or to the health system [and are therefore most at risk to face a life in deplorable circumstances.]

We recommend:

* Take appropriate measures to strengthen the rule of law and access to justice including in the province Lunda Norte, inter alia by allocating sufficient funds to the judicial system to further develop capacity of courts;
* Strengthen measures to combat violence against women and children, including but not limited to domestic violence;
* Guarantee the protection and respect of civic space by ensuring the timely and effective legal registration of NGOs;
* Ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC.

I thank you.