**Statement by H.E. Pendapala A. Naanda, Ambassador/Permanent Representative, during the Interactive Dialogue on the Universal Periodic Review of Guinea, 21 January 2020**

1. **Thank you, Madam President,**
2. Namibia welcomes the delegation of Guinea and thank them for preparing a comprehensive national report as well as for their commitment to the UPR process.
3. **Madam President,**
4. The right to life is so sacred that without it the exercise of other human rights would remain a mere imagination. In fact, while we acknowledge that human rights are interdependent and indivisible, one can hardly argue against Pope Francis when he said that“ the right to life is the first among human rights.”
5. Namibia is, therefore, extremely pleased to note that the Death Penalty has not been applied in Guinea since 2003, which means that Guinea is a de facto an abolitionist state.
6. In the spirit of constructive dialogue, we make the following recommendations to ensure that Guinea continues to uphold this fundamental human right:
   1. Accede to the second optional protocol to the international covenant on civil and political rights; and
   2. Ensure that sentences of persons who remain under sentence of death are commuted without delay.
   3. We wish the delegation of Guinea a successful review.
7. **I thank you, Madam President.**