**Statement by H.E. Pendapala A. Naanda, Ambassador/Permanent Representative, during the Interactive Dialogue on the Universal Periodic Review of the Republic of Republic of Guinea-Bissau, 24 January 2020**

1. **Thank you, Madam President,**
2. Namibia warmly welcomes the delegation of Guinea-Bissau and thank them for their commitment to the UPR process.
3. Namibia is pleased to note that with the accession to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families on 22 October 2018, Guinea-Bissau is now a State Party to 8 out of the 9 Core International Human Rights Treaties. We, therefore, encourage Guinea-Bissau to take positive steps to ensure that the Human Rights contained in these core instruments are promoted and protected at the national level.
4. In the spirit of constructive dialogue, we make the following two recommendations for consideration by Guinea-Bissau:
   1. Consider ratifying the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on the acceptance of an individual complaints’ procedure;
   2. Establish an independent national human rights institution, in compliance with the Paris Principles and ensure that it is adequately resourced.
5. We wish the delegation of Guinea-Bissau a successful review.
6. **I thank you, Madam President.**