**Statement by H.E. Pendapala A. Naanda, Ambassador/Permanent Representative, during the Interactive Dialogue on the Universal Periodic Review of Kuwait, 29 January 2020**

1. **Thank you, Madam President,**
2. Namibia welcomes the delegation of Kuwait and thank them for preparing a comprehensive national report.
3. Namibia commends Kuwait for its strong commitment to the United Nations Human Rights System. We are particularly pleased to note that Kuwait has fully and punctually complied with its reporting obligations to the UN Treaty bodies. We further welcome efforts of Kuwait to advance the rights of Woman and Children, which among others include, the adoption of equal pay for equal work legislation and the creation of an office for the protection of children’s rights.
4. While acknowledging the progress made, Namibia makes the following recommendations for consideration by Kuwait:
	1. Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
	2. Amend or repeal the Personal Status Act in order to eliminate discrimination against women in areas relating to marriage and family relations.

7. We wish the delegation of Kuwait a successful review.

1. **I thank you, Madam President.**