**STATEMENT BY ZIMBABWE ON THE OCCASION OF THE 3RD CYCLE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS: 2 NOVEMBER 2020**

Thank you, Madam President,

Zimbabwe welcomes and thanks the delegation of Belarus for their report.

 During the period under review, Belarus continued to implement socially oriented public policies such as the provision of free medical care and equal access to education. It has also adopted national plans of action to improve the lives of persons with disabilities and to promote gender equality, respectively.

In fulfilment of its international obligations, Belarus acceded to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and submitted a number of State Party reports to the human rights Treaties which it is a party to.

My delegation recommends that Belarus:

* Streamline the operations of the national mechanism designed to identify victims of trafficking in persons and refer them for rehabilitation.

 I thank you, Madam President.