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UPR WORKING GROUP - TENTH SESSION

(24 January - 4 February, 2011)

UPR of MOZAMBIQUE - INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

February 1, 2011; 1430-1730 hrs

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. President,

India welcomes the delegation of Mozambique led by H.E. ----- and thanks the delegation for its presentation and National Report, which portrays the situation of human rights in the country in a candid manner. We acknowledge the challenges and constraints faced by the Government in securing the human rights of its citizens. Having emerged from an armed conflict, Mozambique has achieved notable success in maintaining peace and stability, and in achieving rapid economic growth. The UN Country Team has commended Mozambique for having shown remarkable progress on all indicators of economic development, which, in turn, has fuelled progress for the improvement of the human rights situation. On the political front, the ongoing process of decentralization, with the establishment of local municipalities and the creation of local advisory councils, has strengthened participatory decision-making in the country.

2. We take positive note of the Government's efforts to promote women's rights, including the incorporation, *inter alia*, of a specific provision articulating the principle of equality between men and women in the Constitution, the initiation of legal reforms aimed at eliminating

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discrimination against women and the adoption of a law on Domestic Violence against Women in 2009.

3. As acknowledged in the National Report, HIV/AIDS constitutes one of the major challenges in Mozambique. In this context, we take positive note of the law adopted to protect persons living with HIV/AIDS against stigmatization and discrimination; and the creation of the National Council to implement the National Plan to Combat AIDS.

4. In conclusion, Mr. President, we are encouraged to learn of the priorities set out by Mozambique for itself in its National Report, which is indicative of the Government's commitment to protect and promote human rights. In particular, we appreciate its commitment to accede to international human rights instruments that it is not yet Party to and to strengthen its institutional framework with regard to human rights. We hope that this commitment shall materialise in Mozambique's ratification of the ICESCR and the CRPD; and the full compliance of its National Commission on Human Rights with the Paris Principles. We wish Mozambique well in its endeavours.

Thank you, Mr. President.
