



**REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE**

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**Statement**

**By**

**H.E. Dr. Esperança Machavela, Minister of Justice**

**of the**

**Republic of Mozambique**

**High-Level Segment**

**of the**

**Human Rights Council**

**Geneva, June 2006**

**Mr. President**

**Madame High Commissioner for Human Rights**

**Distinguished Members of the Human Rights Council**

**Excellencies,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

I wish to join the previous speakers in congratulating the President of the Council, Ambassador de Alba for his election to the I Session of the Human Rights Council. Our congratulations are also extended to the distinguished members of the Bureau. I am confident that under your skilful guidance our deliberations will be crowned with success.

We salute the United Nations Secretary-General, His Excellency kofi Annan for leading the reforms of the United Nations system in order to make our common institution more effective and responsible to the challenge of the new millennium. His vision shared with the world leaders last September led to the crucial decision to create the Human Rights Council in order to strengthen the United Nations human rights machinery.

We congratulate the newly elected members of the Council and my delegation reaffirms the commitment of the government of Mozambique in its cooperation for the success of the work of the Council.

We strongly believe that the new Council will be able to contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of member States to comply with their human rights obligations. It should promote cooperation, constructive dialogue and develop means and ways to enhance capacity building, technical assistance and human rights education.

In this context, the Human Rights Council work must be guided by the principles of universality, impartiality, and objectivity. The mandate of the Council should be based on the principle that all human rights are universal, inalienable, indivisible, and interdependent.

**Mr. President**

Mozambique welcomes the establishment of the Human Rights Council, and supports the universal periodic review mechanism. The experience of PEAR review mechanism established by NEPAD in Africa proved to be assertive, since