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**Statement by the delegation of Mozambique at the 4th Session of the Intergovernmental Working Group on Business and Human Rights**

Thank you, Mr. Chair – rapporteur, for giving us the floor!

At the outset, we wish to congratulate you, Mr. Chair – repporteur upon your election to steer the proceedings of the 4th session of the Working Group.

We align ourselves to the statement delivered by the African Group.

We welcome the draft zero of the Legally Binding Instrument to Regulate, in International Human Rights Law, the Activities of Transnational Corporations and other Business Enterprises, on which our delegation has been all along advocating for, in light of Council Resolution 26/9.

We note, with appreciation, that the draft before us has sought to encapsulate, to the extent possible, the balk of the outcomes of various consultations the Chair – rapporteur undertook, in an open, comprehensive, transparent and inclusive manner, involving states and other stakeholders. We highly commend the Chair – rapporteur for such remarkable work.

Meanwhile, we are of the view that article 3, on the scope, instead of making reference to all international human rights, it should be more specific on the pressing rights the draft instrument seeks to cover and protect.

As for article 4, on definitions, it should be more exhaustive so as to contemplate other relevant concepts, in the context of the present draft instrument.

We also think that the Draft should expressly make reference to the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, endorsed by the Human Rights Council resolution 17/4, in 2011, and refereed to since the inception of **IGWG**. Even thought termed soft law, the Guiding Principles proved to be relevant in dealing with some of the issues the draft, with its binding nature, seeks do address in detail to the benefit of the potential victims.

In fact, the draft at hand should also seek to build up on those principles, where possible and relevant. The Guiding Principles represent the first substantive attempt of the UN in addressing the concerns of the victims. We should point out, that we have noticed these Principles figure in the list of documents consulted during the preparation of the draft.

Geneva, 15 October 2018