ANNEX TO THE ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN 47TH ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES’ RIGHTS COVERING THE PERIOD FROM 14 MAY TO 10 NOVEMBER 2019: SUBMITTED BY THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE

1. The 47th Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACHPR), that will be presented to the 36th Session of the Executive Council from 6 to 7 February 2020, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, refers.

2. Zimbabwe appreciates the commendation of Zimbabwe as one of the countries that are up to date in the submission of periodic reports to the ACHPR as provided for in the Charter and in the Maputo Protocol. Zimbabwe also looks forward to hosting the ACHPR for a Promotion Mission on mutually agreed dates in 2020.

3. The Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe takes note of the references to “Allegations of abduction and assault of human rights defenders and opposition political leaders prior to, and violence by police during the demonstrations of 16 August 2019 in Zimbabwe”, among other areas of concern.

The Government and state security actors in Zimbabwe mandated to protect its citizens, upon receiving complaints, professionally respond to any reports received. Any reports of alleged abductions of individuals, the Zimbabwe Republic Police has promptly launched investigations.

4. The ACHPR reports should focus on facts, not allegations and respect the procedures of the ACHPR itself that only facts are published. Zimbabwe objects to the inclusion of unproven allegations under a section that focusses on areas of concern. In view of the above, the Government of Zimbabwe
requests that the ACHPR removes the unproven allegations from the report, in line with its own rules of procedure.

5. The Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe reiterates its commitment to work very closely with the African Commission on Human and People’s Rights cognisant of the fact that the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe has the primary responsibility to promote, protect and defend the Human and People’s Rights of the people who fall under its jurisdiction.