



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

**ZAMBIA'S NATIONAL STATEMENT TO THE
UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE
CHANGE SUMMIT**

**DELIVERED BY HIS EXCELLENCY,
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PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA**

**UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS,
NEW YORK**

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EXCELLENCIES,

THE COPENHAGEN CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE PROVIDES AN IMPORTANT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY TO PUT IN PLACE EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE AND AVERT SEVERE IMPACTS THAT THREATEN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

ZAMBIA, LIKE MOST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; IS VULNERABLE AND IS ALREADY EXPERIENCING ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE. THEREFORE, AN EFFECTIVE ADAPTATION FRAMEWORK WHICH REDUCES OUR RISKS TO THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE MUST CONSTITUTE AN IMPORTANT OUTCOME OF THE COPENHAGEN CONFERENCE.

HOWEVER, AN ADAPTATION FRAMEWORK WILL NOT BE ENOUGH IF WE DO NOT ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSE OF GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. IT IS THEREFORE IMPORTANT THAT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TAKE THE LEAD IN AGREEING UPON AMBITIOUS LEGALLY BINDING EMISSION REDUCTION TARGETS, CONSISTENT WITH SCIENTIFIC ADVICE, WHILE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL REQUIRE SUPPORT FROM THE GLOBAL COMMUNITY TO ADOPT APPROPRIATE ACTIONS.

EXCELLENCIES,

HUGE AMOUNTS OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER
RESOURCES SHOULD BE MADE READILY
AVAILABLE TO THE MOST VULNERABLE
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO HELP THEM
FINANCE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION
PROGRAMMES.

THESE FUNDS MUST BE ADDITIONAL TO THE OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE (ODA). IN ADDITION, A TRANSPARENT FINANCIAL MECHANISM SHOULD BE PUT IN PLACE SO THAT DESERVING VULNERABLE COUNTRIES CAN EASILY ACCESS THE FUNDS.

EXCELLENCIES,

ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY FOR THE POOR AND MOST VULNERABLE COUNTRIES IS ALSO CRUCIAL. THEREFORE, THE COPENHAGEN CONFERENCE SHOULD ADDRESS THE TRADITIONAL BARRIERS TO TECHNOLOGY SUCH AS COST AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS.

THIS SUPPORT SHOULD ALSO BE EXTENDED TO CAPACITY BUILDING IN ORDER TO ENABLE OUR PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY LOCAL COMMUNITIES WHO ARE AT HIGH RISK, LEARN NEW WAYS OF RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGES.

EXCELLENCIES,

TO COME UP WITH A ROBUST AND EFFECTIVE
CLIMATE CHANGE DEAL IN COPENHAGEN, THERE
IS NEED FOR US TO ACT^{IN} IN A PRAGMATIC
MANNER IN ORDER TO REVERSE THE NEGATIVE
IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE.

THIS DECEMBER, WE HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE:
TO ACT RESPONSIBLY AS A UNITED GLOBAL
COMMUNITY AND PROVIDE A FIRM GROUND TO
SAFEGUARD OUR COMMON GOOD OR STICK TO
TRADITIONAL POSITIONS AND NEGOTIATING
TACTICS AND CONSIGN OUR FUTURE AND THAT
OF OUR CHILDREN TO DOOM.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL MAKE THE
RIGHT CHOICE.

I THANK YOU.