



Zimbabwe

STATEMENT

Delivered by

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OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE**

During the Sixth Committee 76th Session

On Agenda Item 88:

“Strengthening and Promoting the International Treaty Framework”

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Madame Chairperson,

As I am taking the floor for the first time, I wish to congratulate you and the Bureau on your election to preside over the work of the Sixth Committee. My delegation assures you of its full support and cooperation.

Treaties play a critical role in international relations, as an important source of international law, as well as promoting and developing peaceful cooperation amongst States. This is amply recognized in the preamble of the United Nations Charter, which states, *“to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained.”*

Madame Chairperson,

My delegation takes note of the Secretary General’s Report on the Review of the Regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the UN Charter, which outlines cardinal developments that have taken place since 2018, including increased use of electronic submissions of treaty registration and publication. This was meant to facilitate a streamlined, efficient and timeous treaty registration process premised on the need to reduce costs, promote transparency and to expand access and universal participation in the registration of

treaties.

Madame Chairperson,

We commend the important role played by the Treaty Section in highlighting the importance of wider dissemination of treaties and the promotion of participation in the registration processes by Member States, as well as supporting them with technical assistance and training workshops at the national and regional levels.

The Secretary General's Report notes that there is a serious geographical imbalance, which has caused a disparity in treaty registrations globally, especially for developing countries. As the objective is to review the regulations, the thrust should be to ensure that they are reinforced and tailor made to assist developing countries. We envisage that initiatives could include capacity building and simplified registration procedures through digital or electronic means. We share the view that increased technical assistance and workshops on treaty law at the national and regional levels can help reduce the

geographical imbalance in treaty registration.

The review of the regulations should also be done in a comprehensive manner to ensure legal certainty and predictability.

There is merit in Mexico's observation that the regulations did not address the issue of registration of treaties provisionally applied in accordance with article 25 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. We also support the proposal by Mexico to bring this practice into line with existing norms of the Law of Treaties and to update the existing regulations giving effect to article 102 of the United Nations Charter.

With regards to translations into one of the official languages of the Organization and the requirement that all published treaties be translated into French or English, we note the divergent views, but still look forward to States submitting courtesy translations and other innovative means to support the Secretariat in its publication of treaties.

I thank you.