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**STATEMENT BY**

**H.E. DR. CHOLA MILAMBO  
AMBASSADOR/PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON**

**AGENDA ITEM : 78**

**REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW  
(UNCITRAL) ON THE WORK OF ITS 58<sup>TH</sup> SESSION**

**AT THE SIXTH COMMITTEE**

**DURING THE**

**EIGHTIETH SESSION OF THE  
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

New York  
20<sup>th</sup> October, 2025

**Mr. Chair**

The Republic of Zambia e delivers this statement based on the Advance Copy of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) at its 58th Session under document A/80/17. We offer our sincere condolences to the Government of El Salvador and the family of Ms. Julia Emma Villatoro Tario, Chairperson of the 58th Session of UNCITRAL, on her passing a few days after the conclusion of the 58<sup>th</sup> Session.

Zambia aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished delegate of Cameroon on behalf of the African Group.

**Mr. Chair**

Zambia commends UNCITRAL Commission and in particular, the UNCITRAL Secretariat for the outstanding achievements made during the 58<sup>th</sup> Commission of UNCITRAL. Among the outcomes of the Session, we wish to highlight the adoption of the Draft Convention on Negotiable Cargo Documents, which aim to harmonize the legal framework of carriage of goods across multiple jurisdictions using multi modal transportation.

Once the Convention is adopted by the General Assembly in November, Negotiable Cargo Documents (NDC) will now be available for all modes of transport, including air, road, rail, and sea freight, regardless of whether the cargo is shipped unimodally or multimodally. The Convention will boost economic activity and revenues through simplified trade processes.

The use of a single electronic CD in the same set of reliable data across the supply chain will enhance regional transport corridors by ensuring transparency, predictability and standardization in the global supply chain.

**Mr. Chair**

The 32 LLDCs, house over 500 million people, which is about 7% of the global population. However, economic growth remains limited by higher trade costs related to geographically distant from the sea. You may wish to note that LLDCs account for less than 2% of global trade in goods.

Further, lack of sufficient resources, connectivity, technical expertise, and infrastructure cause LLDCs to face nearly double the trade costs of coastal

nations. In this regard, according to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), their estimated share of global merchandise exports is only 1.1%.

Zambia urges LLDCs to proactively address their geographical and economic hurdles through intentional policy-making. The recent tariff hikes make it clear that LLDCs must urgently diversify their economies and strengthen regional cooperation, placing a strong emphasis on innovation and entrepreneurship. By reforming traditional transit arrangements, LLDCs can turn their unique geographical challenges into opportunities for sustainable and inclusive growth.

**Mr. Chair**

Further to the outcomes of the UNCITRAL 58<sup>th</sup> Session, Zambia, commends the Commission for the progress on the draft Statute of the Advisory Centre on International Investment Dispute Resolution. They expressed broad support for its goals, seeing it as a concrete demonstration of commitment to strengthening the multilateral trading and investment system.

Zambia commends UNCITRAL for the progress made at the 58<sup>th</sup> Session on the draft Statute of the Advisory Centre on International Investment Dispute Resolution and consideration of various aspects related to the operationalization of the Advisory Center. We offer broad support for its goals, viewing the Centre as a concrete commitment to strengthening the multilateral trading and investment system.

We reiterate our statement during the 79<sup>th</sup> Session that Zambia is optimistic about the work that the Advisory Center will do in levelling the playing field in investor-state dispute resolution and dispute avoidance.

Zambia further commends the Commission for also achieving the following outcomes at its 58<sup>th</sup> Session:

- i. adoption of the Toolkit on prevention and mitigation of international investment dispute under Working Group III on investor-State Dispute Settlement;
- ii. adoption of the draft Convention and Background notes on Asset Tracing and Recovery in Insolvency proceedings; and

- iii. approval for Publication of two customizable templates of model organisations rules for limited liability enterprises designed to assist States in supporting micro, small and medium-sized enterprise (SMEs).

**Mr. Chair**

In conclusion, Zambia wishes to once again congratulate the UNCITRAL Commission for the tremendous work done so far. We pledge our continued support to the work of the Commission through various international, regional and sub-regional instruments. Zambia to open to cooperate with the Commission in any way possible.

I thank you.