



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA



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**PRE-RECORDED STATEMENT DELIVERED BY
HIS EXCELLENCY MR. HAKAINDE HICHILEMA
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
ON HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON ENERGY
DURING THE
SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE
UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

24th September, 2021
New York

Your Excellency, Mr. António Guterres, Secretary General of the United Nations,

As we all know, energy is one of the key enablers for economic growth and sustainable development, and as such all countries must have guaranteed access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy.

As Zambia aspires to be a prosperous middle-income country by 2030, my Government is committed to ensure that the Zambian people have access to such energy, in line with the SDG on energy.

We further desire to transform the country into a net-exporter of energy in Central Southern Africa, as we have the potential to produce excess hydropower energy.

In this regard, Zambia is implementing an ambitious energy investment plan to increase power generation capacity and to attain a broad energy mix, with renewable energy at the center.

My Government is therefore, putting in place a conducive policy environment that will encourage private investment in power generation, transmission, distribution and retail.

In line with our national commitments made under the 2015 Paris Agreement, Zambia is making strides to implement and mainstream various climate change mitigation and adaptation measures into the national development agenda.

It is in this regard that Zambia will participate in the 26th Conference of Parties on Climate Change where these matters will be further deliberated upon.

Excellencies,

Zambia will leverage on synergies among the global development agendas, such as the “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, “United Nations Sustainable Energy for All”, the “Paris Agreement”, and “African Union Agenda 2063”, in order to derive maximum benefits for the country.

I wish to conclude by emphasising that addressing policy aspirations requires commitment at the highest political level and as leaders, we need to demonstrate a high sense of ownership and responsibility in order to guarantee success in achieving universal access to energy.

I thank you.