

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA



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STATEMENT

BY

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DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

OF THE

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

ON AGENDA ITEM 108: MEASURES TO

ELIMINATE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

New York
12 October, 2015

Mr. Chairman

At the outset, let me join others who have spoken before me to congratulate you and the members of the bureau on your deserving elections. Let me assure you of my delegation's full cooperation and support throughout the work of the Committee.

My delegation associates itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of South Africa, on behalf of the African Group and the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

Mr. Chairman,

Zambia reiterates its firm condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. I also wish to reaffirm my country's commitment to the common fight aimed at ending terrorism. All acts of terrorism are criminal, inhumane and cannot be justified under international law. An unwavering and united effort by the international community is required in order to succeed in preventing these heinous acts that go against all laid principles of international human rights and humanitarian law. In this respect, we recognize the United Nations' central role in coordinating the efforts by member states in countering terrorism and strengthening the ability of states to prevent terrorist acts.

Zambia supports the United Nations Security Council initiatives against terrorism. It is our sincere belief that the United Nations offers the best framework for a sustainable campaign against terrorism, while at the same time being respectful of the principles of freedom, justice and human dignity and religious tolerance. In this regard, we take note of the Secretary-General's report contained in **document A/70/211**. In addition, we would like to commend the countries and United Nations agencies that submitted information on measures taken at the national and international levels to combat crimes connected with terrorism.

Mr. Chairman

In order to contribute to the work of the United Nations and the international community in ensuring that international terrorism in all its forms is eliminated, Zambia has continued to develop and implement measures that will ensure that people and organisations engaging in terrorist activities do not find a safe haven within its territory. To this end, the Zambian Government is implementing measures intended to prevent terrorism through various actions,

amongst which is the reforms of relevant national legislations and the implementation of various anti-terrorism treaties.

In March, 2015, the Zambian Government presented to parliament a bill to amend the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2007 so as to establish the National Anti-Terrorism Center. The national center will *inter-alia* provide policy and administrative framework mechanisms to enable implementation of the provisions of the anti-terrorism act, the United Nations convention on the suppression of financing of terrorism and Security Council resolutions 1267 and 1373 among others. The Government is optimistic that the bill will be enacted into law before the end of 2015.

Mr. Chairman

Zambia recognizes that while the accomplishments of the international community in developing robust counter-terrorism instruments is significant, there still remains much to be done in ensuring that these instruments are widely ratified and implemented. We draw particular attention to the six instruments:—the 2005 international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism (nuclear terrorism convention), the 2005 amendment to the convention on the physical protection of nuclear material (amendment), the 2005 protocols to the convention on the suppression of unlawful acts against the safety of maritime navigation (protocols), and the 2010 convention on the suppression of unlawful acts relating to international civil aviation and its protocol.

Mr. Chairman

Zambia welcomes the work of the *ad hoc* committee, established pursuant to general assembly resolution 67/99, to continue elaborating the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism. We recognize that, despite the best efforts of the Committee, negotiations on current proposals are at an impasse. In this regard, my delegation reiterates the importance of concluding a comprehensive convention on International Terrorism and we encourage all member states to cooperate and show flexibility in their negotiations, so as to move forward in coming up with a Comprehensive Convention on Terrorism. The convention would be of great significant as it would, among other things, facilitate measures on the prosecution of terrorists and strengthen capacity to confront terrorism especially for developing countries. In this regard, States must contrive to reach agreement on the definition of terrorism.

Mr. Chairman

In conclusion, I wish to reiterate Zambia's commitment to working with other states in enhancing the counter-terrorism framework. We also wish to call upon all other Member States to fully cooperate in this fight against terrorism, in consonance with the requirements of International law.

I thank you.