



# REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA



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## **STATEMENT**

**BY**

**HIS EXCELLENCY MR. TENS C. KAPOMA  
AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE**

**OF THE**

**REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**ON REVIEW PROGRESS MADE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION TO PREVEN, COMBAT  
AND ERADICATE THE ILLICIT TRADE IN SMALL  
ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS  
IN ALL ITS ASPECTS**

New York, NY  
12<sup>th</sup> January, 2006

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation wishes to congratulate you on your election as Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on the progress made on review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for Prevention, Combating and Eradicating Illicit Trade and Trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in all its aspects.

Mr. Chairman,

Since the last time we met in July 2005, in New York, Zambia has continued to implement a programme in harmonizing all the relevant organs in collaboration with other SADC Member States. In this regard, it is gratifying that to strengthen the region of position, SADC Member States have ratified the necessary protocols. On national level, the Government of the Republic Zambia has set up a national co-ordinating agency and a national focal point Committee to map up strategies to implement the Bamako Declaration and the SADC protocol on the control of firearms, ammunitions and other related materials.

Mr. Chairman,

The Zambian Government through various legal instruments has provided for an accountable system in the manner small arms are acquired and disposed by both the State Officials and private individuals. The presence of SALW in Zambia is as a result of liberation and civil wars from neighbouring countries.

Mr. Chairman,

It is the responsibility of the Zambian Government to sensitize and warn the citizens of the dangers of keeping these weapons in their communities as they are in wrong hands. To this end, the Government through the police, wild life, army and media and in some cases through chiefs have been carrying out sensitization programmes to encourage those with weapons to surrender them.

To do this, a number of projects are being carried out such as amnesty; buy back and operation clean up. The media also plays a major part in disseminating information on action taken by Government.

Mr. Chairman,

The question of brokering is a very important element in addressing the problems of small arms and light weapons. It is Zambia's hope that the outcome document of the review Conference will include clear guidelines on the question of brokering.

Equally important for Zambia is the element of marking and tracing of Small Arms and Light Weapons which we consider would act as a preventive measure.

Zambia adheres to the standards of the marking and tracing of Small Arms by insuring that all imported firearms are properly registered at the point of entry according to legal requirements.

Mr. Chairman,

It is against this background that Zambia through its national focal point agencies has worked out capacity building programmes for various organizations and individuals in this exercise. However, lack of logistics affected these programmes in the past. It is against this background that my delegation is calling upon the donor community to support our programmes.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.