



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA



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STATEMENT

BY

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AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

ON

AGENDA ITEM NO 88: AFRICA NUCLEAR – WEAPON – FREE ZONE
TREATY

NEW YORK
27th OCTOBER 2014

Mr. Chairman,

Allow me once again to thank you and your bureau for the total commitment you have exhibited in steering the deliberations of this Committee. My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by Nigeria on behalf of the African Group and Indonesia on behalf of the Non Aligned Movement (NAM).

It is gratifying to note that at present, Fifty Three (53) African countries have signed the Africa Nuclear – Weapon – Free Zone Treaty which is also known as the Pelindaba Treaty. As of May, 2014, Thirty Eight (38) of these countries had ratified the treaty. This is in order to reaffirm their total commitment, strengthen non-proliferation, and promote co-operation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy and complete disarmament as well as enhancement of regional peace and security.

I wish to reiterate that Zambia ratified the Pelindaba Treaty on 28th June, 2010. In this regard, the Government embraces the initial step that was taken by the United Nations General Assembly Resolution which was adopted in 1961 for a Nuclear Weapons – Free – Zone in Africa and the subsequent adoption of the Denuclearization of Africa Resolution in July 1964. Zambia welcomes efforts being made by countries in other regions to strengthen nuclear-Weapons-free-zone treaties.

Mr. Chairman,

Recognizing the importance of establishing of a world free of nuclear weapons, Zambia continues operating within the framework of the Pelindaba Treaty in order to contribute to freeing the African continent from developing, producing, acquiring and testing nuclear weapons. In addition, Zambia is working with the Africa Regional

Forum of Nuclear Regulatory Bodies in Africa, (FARBA) by enhancing, strengthening and protecting nuclear safety and the security regulatory infrastructures.

Zambia will fully support the African Commission on Nuclear Energy by ensuring compliance with the obligations under this treaty through the application of peaceful nuclear safeguards and consultations at regional and international levels.

In addition, Zambia embraces the Treaty's Protocols I, II and III which call on Nuclear Weapons States not to use nuclear weapons against any Party to the Treaty, prohibits the testing of Nuclear Weapons anywhere within the Pelindaba Nuclear Weapons Free Zone and prohibits the use of Nuclear weapons for terrorist activities.

With regard to nuclear science and technology, Zambia will endeavor to support the African Regional Co-operative Agreement for Research, Development and Training related to nuclear science and technology.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, I wish to reiterate the importance of bringing the other members of the international community into the treaty. Zambia calls upon those countries that have not signed and ratified the Non-Proliferation Treaty to do so in order for the treaty to attain universality.

I thank you.