



**REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA**

**STATEMENT AT THE**

**MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: ADDRESSING  
CURRENT AND EMERGING DEVELOPMENT  
CHALLENGES**

**28-30 NOVEMBER 2018, VIENNA, AUSTRIA**

**STATEMENT DELIVERED BY:**

**DR. ROLAND MSISKA**

**SECRETARY TO THE CABINET**

**ZAMBIA**

## **THE CO-CHAIRS**

### **DISTINGUSHIED HEADS OF DELEGATIONS**

#### **LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

ON BEHALF OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA, I WISH TO THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THIS MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ADDRESSING CURRENT AND EMERGING DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES.

#### **CO-CHAIRS**

OVER THE PAST 50YEARS SINCE ZAMBIA BECAME A MEMBER STATE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA), THE COUNTRY HAS BEEN UTILIZING NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY THAT HAS CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO SOCIO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

AS PART OF ZAMBIA'S NUCLEAR PROGRAMME, THE COUNTRY HAS CONTINUED TO IMPLEMENT INITIATIVES AIMED AT DEVELOPING HUMAN RESOURCE CAPACITY, IN AREAS SUCH AS NUCLEAR APPLICATIONS, NUCLEAR SAFETY

AND SECURITY, AS WELL AS NUCLEAR REGULATION. CURRENTLY, ZAMBIA HAS CONTINUED TO UNDERTAKE PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS ON THE BENEFITS OF NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

LET ME TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO HIGHLIGHT SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES THAT ZAMBIA IS UNDERTAKING IN COLLABORATION WITH THE IAEA:

(A) IN THE AREA OF RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY, AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION IS BEING ESTABLISHED IN VIEW OF THE HEIGHTENED NUCLEAR PROGRAM ACTIVITIES IN THE COUNTRY.

(B) IN THE AREA OF HEALTH SERVICE DELIVERY, ZAMBIA HAS CONTINUED TO EXPAND AND STRENGTHEN THE APPLICATION OF NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. I AM HAPPY TO REPORT THAT THE IAEA HAS CHOSEN ZAMBIA CANCER DISEASES HOSPITAL (CDH) AS AN IAEA TRAINING CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN RADIOTHERAPY. CURRENTLY, THE CDH IS PROVIDING FELLOWSHIP TRAINING TO A NUMBER OF STUDENTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES.

(C) IN FOOD SAFETY AND SECURITY – WITH THE ASSISTANCE FROM THE IAEA, ZAMBIA HAS DEVELOPED SIX (06) VARIETIES OF BEANS THROUGH INDUCED MUTATION USING GAMMA RADIATION WHICH ARE DROUGHT TOLERANT, HIGH YIELD AND DISEASE RESISTANT. THESE VARIETIES ARE ABOUT TO BE RELEASED ON THE MARKET TO CONTRIBUTE TO FOOD SECURITY PARTICULARLY IN DROUGHT PRONE AREAS.

(D) IN THE AREA OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, ZAMBIA IS IMPLEMENTING A TECHNICAL COOPERATION (TC) PROJECT WITH THE IAEA IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BY DEVELOPING GUIDELINES FOR ZAMBIA ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

(E) IN THE AREA OF ENERGY, ZAMBIA IS PURSUING NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AS PART OF THE DIVERSIFIED AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY MIX FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

IN THIS REGARD, ZAMBIA IS WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ROSATOM OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION TO DEVELOP THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY.

(F) IN THE AREA OF WATER RESOURCES, ZAMBIA IS EXPANDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE IAEA SUPPORTED PROJECT ON CAPACITY BUILDING IN ENVIRONMENTAL RADIO ACTIVITY MONITORING OF IN MINING AREAS.

FURTHER, ZAMBIA APPRECIATES THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE IAEA THROUGH THE PROVISION OF RESEARCH EQUIPMENT TO A NUMBER OF RESEARCH LABORATORIES IN THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS, RESEARCH CENTRES AND HIGHER LEARNING INSTITUTIONS.

IN CONCLUSION, I WISH TO REITERATE THAT THE GOVERNMENT REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA VALUES THE SUPPORT WHICH THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC AND ENERGY AGENCY. I THANK YOU.