



Republic of Zambia

**ZAMBIA'S INTERVENTION DURING THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES,
COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE ON FRIDAY, 24 JUNE 2011**

THANK YOU FOR THE FLOOR MR. PRESIDENT

MAY I BEGIN BY COMMENDING YOU MR. PRESIDENT FOR THE INITIATIVES YOU HAVE UNDERTAKEN IN ADVANCING THE AGENDA OF THIS NEW STANDING COMMITTEE?

ZAMBIA PARTICIPATED IN THE TIRANA SYMPOSIUM AND FOUND IT TO BE VERY USEFUL IN MITIGATING THE CHALLENGES THAT REMAIN FOR THE CONVENTION.

MR. PRESIDENT,

MY DELEGATION IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE NUMBER OF EXTENSION REQUESTS REGARDING ARTICLE 5 THAT CONTINUE TO BE SUBMITTED. THIS IS NOT A DESIRABLE SITUATION AND URGE ALL STAKEHOLDERS TO FIND WAYS OF ADDRESSING THIS PROBLEM. THERE HAVE GOT TO BE ANSWERS FOUND TO THE MOST CRITICAL QUESTION – WHICH THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON MINE CLEARANCE, MINE RISK EDUCATION AND MINE RISK TECHNOLOGIES – ASKED REGARDING CLARITY OF THE REMAINING PROBLEM.

WE NEED TO USE THIS FORUM TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON BEST PRACTICES. IN THIS REGARD, WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE SHARING THIS MORNING BY MOZAMBIQUE AND NORWAY, ECUADOR AND PERU AND OTHERS THIS MORNING WHO HAVE SPOKEN ON HOW THEY ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT IN MEETING THEIR OBJECTIVES.

MR. PRESIDENT,

ZAMBIA HAS CONSISTENTLY UNDERSCORED THE IMPORTANCE OF ENHANCED COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IN THE REALISATION OF THE CONVENTION. IT IS UNDENIABLE THAT COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IS CRITICAL TO THE ACTUALISATION OF THE OBJECTIVES. ALREADY WE ARE LEARNING OF THE MYRIAD OF BENEFITS TO BE GAINED FROM PROMOTING PARTNERSHIP.

MR. PRESIDENT, I AND MY DELEGATION REMAIN EXCITED ABOUT THE POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR THE CONVENTION THAT THIS STANDING COMMITTEE CAN ACHIEVE. MAY I CONCLUDE BY ASSURING YOU MY DELEGATION'S FULL SUPPORT IN THIS REGARD?

I THANK YOU.