STATEMENT

BY

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OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

ON


NEW YORK
5th December 2019
Your Excellency, Mr Tijjani Muhammad – Bande, President of the United Nations General Assembly

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my honour and privilege to be speaking at this important occasion of the Comprehensive High Level Midterm Review of the Vienna Programme of Action for Land Locked Developing Countries.

Mr President,

Zambia remains very committed to the ideals and implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. The country implements this Programme of Action along with other national and global initiatives such as the 7th National Development Plan and the Agenda 2030. Our commitment to the Action Programme could be seen from our hosting of the High Level Follow Up to the Second United Nations Conference on Land Locked Developing Countries in 2015, which was officiated by His Excellency Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic of Zambia.

As a country, we have made progress in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action. This progress has been supported by the overwhelming will of the Zambian people, development partners and regional economic communities. We remain indebted to all those who have supported this progress.
Mr. President,

We have made some progress in Zambia that I wish to briefly share;

- **Under Fundamental Transit and Policy issues:**
  The Zambian Government has launched a new Transport Policy with the aim of transforming the country into a regional transport and logistics hub. This is to be achieved through the development of the transport corridors in the sub-region for Southern Africa.

  In this view, Zambia has been working with its neighbouring countries and other stakeholders on the domestication of agreed legal frameworks, transit rules and policies.

- **Under Infrastructure development and Rehabilitation:**
  In recognizing the importance of developing infrastructure, Zambia has significantly invested in both development and rehabilitation of infrastructure in renewable energy, water and sanitation systems, ICTs and transport to facilitate meaningful development.

- **Structural Transformation:**
  The Government has planned to diversify its economy from mining to agriculture, tourism, manufacturing and towards value addition in mining and processing of precious and semi-precious stones.

  Further, we have developed our first ever Industrial Policy which aims to improve our productive capacity and promote the production and consumption of local content.
Zambia therefore welcomes the just adopted Political Declaration of the midterm review of the Vienna Programme of Action for LLDCs and looks forward to continued and expanded support from our Development Partners, transit developing countries as well as regional and international organisations and other stakeholders.

I thank you