



**REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
MINISTRY OF GREEN ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT**

STATEMENT FOR POSSIBLE USE BY

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MINISTER OF GREEN ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT**

**DURING THE MEDIA BRIEFING ON THE OUTCOMES OF THE
TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK
CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE HELD FROM 11TH TO
23RD NOVEMBER, 2024 IN BAKU, AZERBAIJAN**

**TO BE HELD FROM 08:30 TO 12:00 ON THURSDAY, 5TH
DECEMBER, 2024**

AT TAJ PAMODZI HOTEL IN LUSAKA

DECEMBER 2024

SALUTATIONS

- **DR. DOUTY CHIBAMBA, PERMANENT SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF GREEN ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT;**
- **OTHER PERMANENT SECRETARIES PRESENT;**
- **YOUR EXCELLENCIES, DIPLOMATS ACCREDITED TO ZAMBIA PRESENT;**
- **MEMBERS OF THE ZAMBIAN DELEGATION TO COP-29 PRESENT;**
- **DISTINGUISHED INVITED GUESTS;**
- **MEMBERS OF THE PRESS;**
- **LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

A. THE CONTEXT OF THE CONFERENCE

IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TO WELCOME YOU ALL TO THIS MEDIA BRIEFING WHERE I WILL SHARE THE OUTCOMES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP-29) TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC), THEIR IMPLICATIONS FOR ZAMBIA AS WELL AS THE WAY FORWARD IN ENSURING THAT BENEFITS FROM COP29 OUTCOMES, ARE ACTUALIZED; I WILL ALSO SHARE DETAILS ABOUT THE OUTCOME OF THE 2024 GLOBAL GREEN GROWTH INSTITUTE MEETING OUTCOME AND WEATHER SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY.

1. LET ME BEGIN BY THANKING HIS EXCELLENCY, MR. HAKAINDE HICHILEMA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA, FOR APPOINTING ME AS HIS ENVOY TO THE CONFERENCE AND THE ZAMBIA COP29 DELEGATION LEADER. I ALSO WISH TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE TO ALL ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO ZAMBIA'S SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPATION AT COP29;

2. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES IS THE HIGHEST DECISION-MAKING BODY ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND IT IS COMPOSED OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE SIGNED UP TO THE UNFCCC, THE KYOTO PROTOCOL AND THE PARIS AGREEMENT. THE CONFERENCE IN BAKU, AZERBAIJAN FOLLOWED ON COP-28 HELD IN DUBAI, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES IN 2023 WHERE SIGNIFICANT DECISIONS WERE ADOPTED,

INCLUDING THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE FUND FOR RESPONDING TO LOSS AND DAMAGE;

OUTCOMES FROM THE NEGOTIATION TRACK

THE FINANCE COP

COP29 WAS DUBBED THE “FINANCE COP” BECAUSE ONE OF THE KEY AGENDA ITEMS WAS ESTABLISHING THE NEW COLLECTIVE QUANTIFIED GOAL (NCQG). THIS GOAL REFERS TO THE RESOURCES THAT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES NEED TO MOBILIZE TO SUPPORT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THEIR MITIGATION, ADAPTATION AND LOSS AND DAMAGE PROGRAMMES.

TWO WEEKS AHEAD OF COP29, THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME 2024 ADAPTATION GAP REPORT ENTITLED **“COME HELL AND HIGH WATER: AS FIRES AND FLOODS HIT THE POOR HARDEST, IT IS TIME FOR THE WORLD TO STEP UP ADAPTATION ACTIONS”** ESTIMATED THE ADAPTATION FINANCING GAP AT \$387 BILLION. THIS IS THE SHORTFALL AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES NEED EACH YEAR TO IMPLEMENT THEIR NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS AND NATIONAL ADAPTATION PLANS BETWEEN 2020 AND 2030.

INDEED, TACKLING THE INTENSIFYING IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE REQUIRES TRILLIONS, NOT BILLIONS, OF DOLLARS, A COST FAR BEYOND THE REACH OF POORER NATIONS. THE THIRD REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT HIGH-LEVEL EXPERT GROUP ON CLIMATE FINANCE WHICH WAS LAUNCHED AT COP29 ON 14

NOVEMBER 2024 ESTIMATED THE FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTIES TO BE \$1.3 TRILLION PER YEAR THROUGH 2035 TO COVER MITIGATION, ADAPTATION AND LOSS AND DAMAGE. IT WAS THEREFORE OUR EXPECTATION THAT COP29 WOULD DELIVER \$1.3 TRILLION IN CLIMATE FINANCE IF IT WERE TO BE DEEMED SUCCESSFUL. THIS WAS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT BECAUSE COP29 WAS TASKED TO COME UP WITH A NEW FINANCING GOAL, THE SO-CALLED NEW COLLECTIVE QUANTIFIED GOAL (NCQG). THIS NEW FINANCING GOAL WAS INTENDED TO REPLACE THE ANNUAL \$100 BILLION TARGET ESTABLISHED IN 2009, WHICH WAS BARELY MET IN 2022, TWO YEARS BEHIND SCHEDULE.

I AM AFRAID TO REPORT HERE THAT COP29 FAILED TO LIVE UP TO ITS THEME OF “FINANCE COP” WHEN IT ONLY MANAGED TO DELIVER A PALTRY \$300 BILLION AGAINST THE ACTUAL NEEDS OF \$1.3 TRILLION DESPERATELY NEEDED BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO FINANCE THEIR CLIMATE ACTIONS. INDEED, THE WALK OUTS AND PROTESTATIONS BY DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTIES, INCLUDING THE AFRICAN GROUP OF NEGOTIATORS (AGN); THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDCS); THE SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES; AND THE GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA, DURING THE CLOSING DAYS AND HOURS OF COP29 WERE UNDERSTANDABLE AND JUSTIFIED.

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS; LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

ON ARTICLE 6 OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT, AND AFTER NEARLY A DECADE OF WORK, PARTIES AGREED ON THE FINAL BUILDING BLOCKS THAT SET OUT HOW CARBON MARKETS WILL OPERATE UNDER THE PARIS AGREEMENT, MAKING COUNTRY-TO-COUNTRY TRADING AND A CARBON CREDITING MECHANISM FULLY OPERATIONAL;

3. PARTIES ALSO AGREED ON STANDARDS FOR A CENTRALIZED CARBON MARKET WHICH IS VERY IMPORTANT FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRY PARTIES SUCH AS ZAMBIA THAT WILL BENEFIT FROM NEW FLOWS OF FINANCE AND CAPACITY-BUILDING SUPPORT THAT THEY DESPERATELY NEED TO ENHANCE THEIR CLIMATE ACTIONS USING REVENUES TO BE GENERATED FROM CARBON TRADING;

a. ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

4. ON THE GLOBAL GOAL ON ADAPTATION, COP29 MADE SOME PROGRESS THAT WILL LEAD TO THE ADOPTION OF INDICATORS TO MEASURE PROGRESS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ADAPTATION ACTIONS AT COP30 IN BRAZIL IN 2025

b. MITIGATION AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

5. ON MITIGATION, PARTIES FAILED TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON HOW THE OUTCOMES ON THE GLOBAL STOCKTAKE UNDERTAKEN AT COP28 IN DUBAI IN 2023, INCLUDING A KEY PLEDGE TO TRANSITION AWAY FROM FOSSIL

FUELS, SHOULD BE TAKEN FORWARD, INSTEAD POSTPONING THE DECISION TO COP30 IN BRAZIL NEXT YEAR;

B. OUTCOMES FROM BILATERAL ENGAGEMENTS

6. OUTSIDE THE COP29 NEGOTIATIONS, ZAMBIA ALSO HAD SEVERAL BILATERAL ENGAGEMENTS FROM WHICH THE FOLLOWING KEY ACHIEVEMENTS WERE RECORDED:

- i. ZAMBIA SIGNED TWO BILATERAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS AND A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON ARTICLE 6 WITH SWEDEN, NORWAY AND SINGAPORE, RESPECTIVELY;
- THE SIGNING OF THE BILATERAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS AS WELL AS THE MOU IS AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARDS ESTABLISHING CONCRETE CLIMATE PROJECTS THAT REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. MOST IMPORTANTLY, THESE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WILL HELP ZAMBIA TO DIVERSIFY HER PROJECT PORTFOLIO FROM FOCUSING ONLY ON NATURE-BASED PROJECTS TO INCLUDE RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CLEAN COOKING PROJECTS WITH READY MARKET FOR THE CARBON CREDITS TO BE PROVIDED BY SWEDEN, NORWAY AND SINGAPORE. ALL THESE THREE PARTNERS HAVE THE HIGHEST INTEGRITY AND CREDIBILITY IN CARBON TRADING.

- ADDITIONALLY, THE GOAL OF THESE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS IS TO ENHANCE ACCESS TO RENEWABLE ENERGY WHICH IS A VITAL STEP IN ERADICATING POVERTY, REDUCING INEQUALITY AND STOPPING CLIMATE CHANGE. THROUGH THE NEW NORWEGIAN STATE GUARANTEE SCHEME, NORWAY WILL HELP TO MOBILISE BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR CAPITAL FOR INVESTMENTS IN RENEWABLE ENERGY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BY REDUCING RISK AND THEREBY LOWERING CAPITAL COSTS FOR INVESTORS. THIS PROVIDES A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN ZAMBIA TO ACCESS AFFORDABLE FINANCING FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS WHILE CREATING THOUSANDS OF GREEN JOBS. THE CARBON CREDITS TO BE GENERATED FROM SUCH PROJECTS HAVE GUARANTEED BUYERS IN NORWAY, SWEDEN AND SINGAPORE.

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS; LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

- **GLOBAL GREEN GROWTH INSTITUTE**
- GGGI WAS ESTABLISHED AS AN INTERNATIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION IN 2012 AT THE RIO+20 UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. ITS VISION IS A LOW-CARBON, RESILIENT WORLD OF STRONG, INCLUSIVE, AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND ITS MISSION TO SUPPORT MEMBERS IN THE TRANSFORMATION OF THEIR ECONOMIES INTO A GREEN GROWTH ECONOMIC MODEL.

- ALL THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS THAT WE SIGNED AT COP29 WERE FACILITATED BY THE GLOBAL GREEN GROWTH INSTITUTE, AN ORGANISATION IN WHICH WE WERE ELECTED IN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DURING THE GLOBAL GREEN GROWTH INSTITUTE JOINT 13TH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY AND THE 17TH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA IN OCTOBER 2024. WE ALSO HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE IN THE SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WHICH GENERATES THE DECISIONS THAT ARE RATIFIED BY THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. GGGI WILL PLAY A KEY ROLE IN HELPING US TO DEVELOP THE REQUISITE PIPELINE PROJECTS FOR ACTUALISING THE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ON CARBON TRADING THAT WE SIGNED AT COP29.

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS; LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

c. WAY FORWARD

IN TERMS OF WAY FORWARD, WE WILL DO THE FOLLOWING:

- i. GOVERNMENT, THROUGH MY MINISTRY, WILL FOLLOW UP ON ALL ENGAGEMENTS THAT WERE MADE DURING COP29 AND WILL ENSURE THAT BENEFITS ARE REALIZED FOR THE COUNTRY;
- ii. GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE PROVIDING A CONDUCTIVE POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK TO FACILITATE THE

PARTICIPATION OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF CLIMATE CHANGE;

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS; LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

7. I WISH TO REITERATE MY GRATITUDE TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA, FOR APPOINTING ME AS HIS ENVOY TO THE CONFERENCE AND DESIGNATING ME AS LEADER FOR THE ZAMBIAN DELEGATION AT COP29, AND TO ALL ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS THAT CONTRIBUTED TO ZAMBIA'S SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPATION AT COP29;

8. I ALSO WISH TO THANK OUR HARD-WORKING NEGOTIATORS WHO SPENT SLEEPLESS NIGHTS TO ENSURE ZAMBIA'S VOICE WAS HEARD;

9. I WISH TO THANK THE ENTIRE DELEGATION TO COP29 FOR THE SUPPORT AND COOPERATION WHICH ENSURED THAT WE WORKED AS ONE UNITED TEAM.

MEMBERS OF THE PRESS; LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

D. WEATHER UPDATE AND ADVISORIES

10. ALLOW ME TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE RAINFALL PERFORMANCE SINCE THE START OF THE SEASON.

11. TO DATE, THE NORTHERN, LUAPULA, COPPERBELT, AND NORTHWESTERN PROVINCES HAVE EXPERIENCED NORMAL TO ABOVE-NORMAL RAINFALL, WITH SOME AREAS RECEIVING OVER 200MM OF RAINFALL FROM 1ST OCTOBER TO 30TH NOVEMBER 2024. HOWEVER, THE SOUTHERN PROVINCE, PARTS OF WESTERN PROVINCE, AND SOME AREAS IN CENTRAL AND

EASTERN PROVINCES (INCLUDING MUMBWA AND CHAMA) HAVE RECORDED BELOW-NORMAL RAINFALL, WITH SOME DISTRICTS LIKE SESHEKE AND LIVINGSTONE RECEIVING LESS THAN 16MM.

12. THE MINISTRY OF GREEN ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT, THROUGH THE METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT, HAS BEEN CLOSELY MONITORING THE SITUATION AND PROVIDING REGULAR UPDATES TO VARIOUS SECTORS, PARTICULARLY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. WE HAVE BEEN COLLABORATING TO PRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE AGROMETEOROLOGICAL ADVISORIES FOR THE BENEFIT OF FARMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS.

13. LOOKING AHEAD, FROM 1ST TO 12TH DECEMBER, MOST PARTS OF ZAMBIA ARE EXPECTED TO EXPERIENCE HIGH TEMPERATURES, RANGING FROM 33°C TO 43°C, COUPLED WITH REDUCED RAINFALL. HOWEVER, WE ANTICIPATE AN IMPROVEMENT IN RAINFALL CONDITIONS IN LUAPULA, NORTHERN, AND MUCHINGA PROVINCES TO START AROUND THE 7TH OF DECEMBER. THIS IMPROVEMENT IS EXPECTED TO GRADUALLY PROGRESS SOUTHWARDS, REACHING THE COPPERBELT AND NORTHWESTERN PROVINCES BY THE 11TH OF DECEMBER.

14. IN LIGHT OF THESE CONDITIONS, WE ADVISE THE PUBLIC TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS:

- **STAY HYDRATED:** DRINK PLENTY OF WATER TO AVOID DEHYDRATION.

- **PROTECT YOURSELF FROM HEAT:** LIMIT OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES DURING THE HOTTEST PARTS OF THE DAY, WEAR LIGHTWEIGHT, LOOSE-FITTING CLOTHING, AND SEEK SHADE.
- **MONITOR WATER USAGE:** CONSERVE WATER, ESPECIALLY IN AREAS EXPERIENCING WATER SHORTAGES.
- **BE FIRE-CAUTIOUS:** AVOID OPEN FIRES AND BE MINDFUL OF ACTIVITIES THAT COULD SPARK FIRES.
- **FARMERS:** IMPLEMENT WATER CONSERVATION TECHNIQUES, SUCH AS DRIP IRRIGATION AND MULCHING. MONITOR CROPS AND LIVESTOCK CLOSELY.
- **HEALTH:** BE AWARE OF HEAT-RELATED ILLNESSES AND CONSULT WITH HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS IF NEEDED.

15. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY AND PROVIDE REGULAR UPDATES THROUGH DAILY WEATHER FORECASTS AND 10-DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETINS.

16. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE SITUATION CLOSELY AND PROVIDE REGULAR UPDATES THROUGH DAILY WEATHER FORECASTS AND 10-DAY AGROMETEOROLOGICAL BULLETINS.

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION.