STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA ON AGENDA ITEM 11.2: PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES: PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL HEALTH REGULATIONS (2005)

Chairperson, thank you for according Zambia an opportunity to make a statement on this agenda item, and wish to thank the Secretariat for the report.

Zambia aligns itself with the statement made by Malawi on this agenda item.

We wish to commend the Secretariat for the many successes and progress attained, as highlighted in the report. We also appreciate the challenges that the secretariat has encountered during the course of implementation.

Chairperson, I am proud to report that Zambia through the Ministry of Health has made remarkable progress in addressing Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response activities and implementation of the international Health Regulations (2005). The Secretariat at the Country level, Regional level and indeed at the headquarters has played a pivotal role in this achievement. Highlights of the progress made include:

1. Strengthening the Public Health Emergency Operations Centre at the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI) through establishment of coordinating mechanisms and utilization of the incident management system;
2. Development of the strategic documents to enhance Public Health Security including the National Action Plan for Health Security

Chairperson, in conclusion I wish to indicate that Zambia will continue to support the work of the Secretariat in all areas pertaining to improve the global public health security.

Thank you