



Republic of Zambia

STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA ON AGENDA ITEM 12.1. THE PANDEMIC INFLUENZA PREPAREDNESS FRAMEWORK FOR THE SHARING OF INFLUENZA VIRUSES AND ACCESS TO VACCINES AND OTHER BENEFITS

Thank you Chairperson for this opportunity to make a statement on this agenda item and we support the statement made by Namibia on behalf of the Member States of the Africa Region.

Zambia welcomes and takes cognizance of the Director General's Report on Implementation of Decision WHA71 (11) (2018) regarding the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) framework for the sharing of influenza viruses and access to vaccines and other benefits. We continue to actively participate in global initiatives to address both pandemic and seasonal influenza and embrace the spirit and fundamental principles of WHO Global Influenza Surveillance and Response System (GISRS) and thus been actively contributing both data and viruses to global influenza control efforts.

Our Country supports initiatives to enhance pandemic preparedness, including, inter alia: implementation of the high-level Partnership Contribution Implementation Plan 2018–2023 for strengthening of laboratory, surveillance and regulatory capacities and burden-of-disease studies; conclusion of Standard Material Transfer Agreements; and regular engagement with secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other organizations involved in implementation of mechanisms for access to pathogens and sharing of benefits arising from their use.

In this regard, the Republic of Zambia supports the draft decision as recommended by the Executive Board in decision EB144(6).

I thank you.