



**STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA ON HUMAN RESOURCES FOR HEALTH ON AGENDA ITEM 12.3: THE WHO GLOBAL CODE OF PRACTICE ON THE INTERNATIONAL RECRUITMENT OF HEALTH PERSONNEL: THIRD ROUND OF NATIONAL REPORTING**

**Chairperson**, thank for according Zambia an opportunity to contribute on this agenda item. We to thank Secretariat for a well-articulated report and we align our statement to the one made by Benin on this agenda item.

Chairperson, the code of practice though non-binding in nature establishes ethical principles and practices for the international recruitment of health personnel and the strengthening of health systems. We note that only 33% of Member States submitted national reports by the end of the second round, and though this was an improvement from the first round, secretariat and we as member states should explore and ensuring timely and accurate reporting as this is what shall make the code effective.

We appreciate that within the resources available, Secretariat has supported the Code's implementation and monitoring, including technical cooperation and provision of support to Member States, and facilitating the third round of national reporting by the designated national authorities. However the reported low rates of designated authorities is worrisome and calls for urgent action by all.

Chairperson, the focus on providing data on the five health professions namely dentist, midwife, nurse, pharmacist and physician by member states is appreciated but we would like to see this further expanded to include **specialties across key disciplines** which is now attracting high mobility in member states.

We further urge secretariat to expeditiously implement the recommendations from the International Platform meeting to maximize the benefits from health worker mobility by member states.

We appeal to Secretariat to strengthen information sharing and support member states to use this information for decision making in human resource planning, development, and management in our pursuit of universal health coverage rather than mere reporting which seems to be the focus currently.

Finally we urge Secretariat to expedite the assessment of the Code's relevance and effectiveness through an independent Member State-led process using a very representative team.

I Thank you.

