STATEMENT BY ZAMBIA ON THE GLOBAL STRATEGY AND PLAN OF ACTION ON PUBLIC HEALTH, INNOVATION AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY: DIRECTOR GENERAL’S REPORT

Thank you, Chairperson, Zambia aligns its comments to the statement given by Kenya. We welcome the progress made in implementing recommendations of the programme panel review of the global strategy and implementation plan of the Public health innovation and intellectual property.

We wish to appeal to member states who are expected to provide feedback through the sent questionnaire to respond so that those views inform decision making on the way forward.

We note and appreciate the continued good collaboration between WHO and the Global observatory for Health research and with World Intellectual property organisation and the World trade organisation.

Chairperson, the funding gap highlighted in the report for fiscal years 2020 to 2022 is worrisome and we call upon donors and stakeholders to prioritise and support research.

We appeal to WHO secretariat to expedite establishment of an Expert Committee on Health Research and Development which was suspended to enable improvements on its scope the terms of reference.

We commend Secretariat for committing to ensuring that by 2021 all research supported or published by WHO will be available for immediate access and reusable under the terms of a free public copyright licence and support the call to member states to adopt the same for the publicly funded research.

We commend Secretariat for; the UNICEF/UNDP/World Bank/WHO Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical Diseases, support in enhancing work in traditional and complementary medicine, interventions to improve access and delivery of essential medicines and other health products.

Zambia supports adoption of the draft decision and looks forward to the 2020 to 2022 public health innovation and intellectual property implementation plan.

I thank you