



Republic of Zambia

**ZAMBIA EB158: AGENDA ITEM 27 AND 27.1: BUDGET AND FINANCE MATTERS AND FINANCING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME BUDGET 2024-2025 AND OUTLOOK ON THE PROGRAMME AND BUDGET 2026 TO 2027**

1. Thank you, Chair.
2. Zambia aligns with the Statement delivered by Comoros on behalf of the African Group
3. Zambia supports the continued implementation of the prioritization and realignment process for a financially stable and fit-for-purpose WHO, and for country-level impact, where it is needed the most.
4. Zambia, therefore, calls for the following: -
  - i. The Equitable allocation of resources across the three pillars of the WHO;
  - ii. A Reduction of the overreliance on earmarked funding which reinforces inequities;
  - iii. A focus on core mandate and functions of the WHO, which would ensure the adequate funding of core technical programmes; and
  - iv. Broadening of financial bases and increasing flexible funding in order to improve predictability and enhance equity.

Zambia notes with concern that outcome 2.1, under the African Region, on health emergency, preparedness and response under the African Region remains among the least funded and implemented despite the continent's vulnerability to outbreaks and humanitarian crisis. What strategy has been put in place to close the funding gap?

**I THANK YOU**