



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

COMMITTEE B

STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA ON AGENDA ITEM 21.3: EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS – PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION.

Mr. Chairman

Zambia aligns itself with the statement made by Senegal on behalf of the 47 member states of the WHO African region on agenda item 21.3, and notes the report by the Director General

Mr. Chairman, provision of independent assurance to WHO Member States about transparency and accountability in the management of resources is critical as it facilitates WHO realization of its work objectives. For this reason, Zambia would like to appreciate the work of the WHO secretariat and the external auditors for this report.

Mr. Chairman, the external auditor's report has highlighted many positive aspects with regard to financial resource management but also outlined a number of recommendations which the secretariat need to take note of and implement. Zambia notes with satisfaction the external auditor's conclusion that 19 (70%) recommendations contained in prior years' audit reports have been implemented while eight (30%) were still in progress of implementation

While noting the positive aspects in the report, Zambia wish to urge the WHO management to expedite the implementation of the recommendations of the external auditor in this report to further improve the recording, processing and reporting of financial transactions and ensure the fair presentation of the financial statements in the next reporting period.

Mr. Chairman, let me conclude by mentioning that Zambia and the entire African Region has a lot of confidence in the management capacity of the WHO. There is however room for continuous improvements. Implementation of the recommendations of the external auditor will contribute to improved efficiency and effectiveness of our management systems.

I thank you

We validated the implementation of external audit recommendations contained in prior years' audit reports. We noted that of the 27 outstanding recommendations, 19 (70%) have been implemented, and eight (30%) were still in progress of implementation