



STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA ON AGENDA ITEM ON NATIONAL AND GLOBAL RESPONSE TO AMR

Thank you, chairperson, Zambia aligns its statement to that delivered on behalf of the 47 member states of the African region by Nigeria, Tanzania and Lesotho.

Zambia acknowledges the critical importance of addressing antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and shares its progress and challenges. We have observed high resistance trends of over 80% for some antibiotics in our tertiary hospitals, underscoring the urgency of accelerating our AMR response.

We have designated staff to manage AMR activities, developed awareness materials, drafted the One Health AMR policy and communication strategy, and created national antimicrobial stewardship guidelines. In agriculture, we assessed the poultry value chain and trained farmers in good antibiotic use.

For surveillance and research, Zambia has renovated and equipped AMR sentinel laboratories, built capacity in laboratory diagnostics, and enrolled in the Global Antimicrobial Resistance Surveillance System (GLASS). We have also advocated for infection prevention and conducted biosafety and biosecurity training.

Despite these efforts, challenges remain, including inadequate community awareness, insufficient capacities in health facilities to identify pathogens and determine resistance patterns, and limited funding for AMR activities.

We appreciate the Secretariat's support through technical assistance, coordination, and partnerships, as well as initiatives like the AMR Diagnostic Initiative and targeted guidance. The Secretariat's efforts to help countries mobilize financing are crucial for progress.

We acknowledge the importance of generating, reporting, and using surveillance and research data supported by GLASS and welcome the Secretariat's commitment to promote global research and development efforts. Equitable, sustainable access to antibiotics and other health products is essential.

We support the Secretariat's international advocacy, education, and awareness-raising efforts and look forward to the development of a measurement and accountability framework to monitor progress.

Zambia remains committed to implementing the global response plan for AMR and providing comprehensive healthcare services.

Thank you.