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REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

**STATEMENT FROM THE ZAMBIAN DELEGATION AT THE
SECOND PREPARATORY COMMITTEE MEETING FOR THE THIRD
WORLD CONFERENCE ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

GENEVA, 17-18 NOVEMBER, 2014

Distinguished Co – Chairs,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Delegates,

On behalf of Zambia, I would like to commend you and the bureau for successfully organising this Second Preparatory Committee Meeting for the third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction to be held in Sendai, Japan in March 2015. I also commend you for the work done in so far as the Zero draft is concerned which is the basis for our negotiations during this meeting.

In delivering our statement, Zambia aligns herself with the statement delivered by the Ambassador of Namibia on behalf of the African group and wishes to note the importance of these preparatory meetings as they provide a platform for all stakeholders to contribute towards the desired outcomes of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

Co-Chairs

Zambia welcomes the Zero draft and in moving forward, we strongly feel that if we have to attain the goals and objectives of Hyogo Framework for Action-2, there is need for all of us, particularly developing countries to overcome the following challenges:

- ✓ Difficulties in fundraising for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) interventions and climate change adaptation given the historical pattern of spending which has been skewed towards response activities as opposed to DRR;
- ✓ Reluctance of funding agencies to invest in DRR given other competing needs. Currently DRR activities are viewed as cost lines and not investment lines; and
- ✓ Failure to harmonise activities between the DRR and Climate Change agencies, leading to duplication and overlaps in resource allocation and utilization.

Co-Chairs

In this regard therefore, my delegation, fully aligns itself to Africa's recommended areas of focus for the HFA-2 namely;

- ✓ Regional risk factors and institutional frameworks;
- ✓ Integration of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation;
- ✓ Investments in disaster risk reduction; and
- ✓ Financing, technology transfer and capacity building mechanism to enhance implementation.

Co-Chairs

As the negotiations on the post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction continue, we need to ensure that the proposed broad areas reflect the aspirations of our people so as to ultimately contribute towards building resilient communities and sustainable development. It is also Zambia's considered view that the post-2015 framework for DRR should include measures to deal with health aspects such as:-

- ✓ Make people's health and well-being an explicit outcome of the new global framework on DRR;
- ✓ Include health targets and indicators for the monitoring and reporting on DRR;
- ✓ Strengthen actions and resources to support health and other sectors that are vital for implementing DRR; and
- ✓ Establish the safe Hospitals Initiative as a global priority for action to ensure that new and existing health facilities remain operational in emergencies and disasters;

Zambia therefore, welcomes the deliberations of this meeting and will remain cooperative in her engagement. As to the elements of the Political declaration as suggested by the Government of Japan, Zambia is very much in support of the

move and looks forward to strengthening countries' commitment to disaster risk reduction at Political level as we move forward in dealing with natural hazards.

Co- Chairs

In conclusion, as we stated during the first preparatory meeting, we reiterate our call that the world should carry forward lessons learnt in the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005 - 2015 so as to foster the gains from the process as well as inform the design of the successor framework.

I thank you.