



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA



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STATEMENT BY

**H.E. DR. CHOLA MILAMBO
AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

ON

**GENERAL DEBATE ON ALL DISARMAMENT AND
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

AT THE FIRST COMMITTEE

DURING THE

**SEVENTY-SEVENTH SESSION OF
THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**NEW YORK
11th October, 2022.**

As member states, we need to be strongly reminded of the obligations that State Parties to the treaty are compelled to conclude a comprehensive safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). We believe this is important for the purpose of verifying compliance, on nuclear activities or use of such equipment for peaceful purposes to any non-nuclear State, unless subject to a comprehensive safeguard's agreement concluded with the IAEA.

Chairperson,

We remain committed to the Pelindaba Treaty which established the nuclear-weapon-free zone on the African continent. Africa, through the Pelindaba Treaty supports the use of nuclear science and technology for peaceful purposes.

Zambia believes that Nuclear Weapons Free Zones are viable avenues of reducing global security concerns and above all, a means through which confidence can be strengthened among States. Further, the Zambian Government recognizes that the threat of nuclear terrorism is real and the complexity and dynamic nature of the subject requires proactive measures and constant assessment of the threat.

Chairperson,

Zambia therefore, supports international measures to combat nuclear terrorism. It is therefore, imperative that all States cooperate to ensure that terrorists do not have access to nuclear weapons and other controlled substances.

Chairperson,

Zambia believes that outer space is a common heritage for mankind, it is important that it should be preserved. Therefore, we continue to support all efforts aimed to achieve this cause, including transparency in outer space activities which should be for peaceful purposes.

We do not support weaponization of space or any tendency to lead to a new arms race, as it would also seriously disrupt the arms control and disarmament process. There is need to preserve the strategic balance and stability, and not undermine international and national security, or disrupt existing arms control instruments, in particular those related to nuclear weapons and missiles.

Chairperson,

Zambia underlines the fact that the issue of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all aspects requires concerted efforts at the National, Regional and International level. We need to work together to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons.

In this regard, Zambia reaffirms its commitment to fight against illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its aspects. We are well aware that the proliferation of the illicit trade and use of the small and light weapons pose a significant threat to global, regional and national peace and security, as well as to the social and economic development of many countries. There is also a close link between the illicit trade in small arms, terrorism, organized crime, drugs and human trafficking. We call for strengthened support of the UN to regional and subregional peace building efforts to prevent such security threat.

Chairperson, I wish to conclude by assuring you of Zambia's continued commitment towards the work of this important committee.

I thank you.