
**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT SECRETARY,
MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING
(ZAMBIA)**

**AT THE THIRD SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY
COMMITTEE FOR HABITAT III**

CO-CHAIRPERSONS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

ON BEHALF OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA, THE ZAMBIAN DELEGATION WISHES TO THANK THE CITY OF SURABAYA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF INDONESIA FOR HOSTING THE THIRD SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR HABITAT III (PREPCOM III) AND FOR THEIR WARM HOSPITALITY. WE FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGE THE WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE TO PREPARE THE HABITAT III DRAFT NEW URBAN AGENDA.

WE WISH TO INDICATE THAT THE HABITAT III DRAFT NEW URBAN AGENDA, FORMS A GOOD BASIS FOR OUR ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATIONS AS WE GO TO QUITO.

WE FULLY SUPPORT THE COMBINED INPUT BY THE AFRICAN GROUP, G77 AND CHINA, AS WELL AS OTHER STAKEHOLDERS THROUGH-OUT THE HABITAT III PROCESS.

ZAMBIA HAS BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED THROUGH-OUT THIS PROCESS.

AS WE MOVE TOWARDS HABITAT III, WE WISH TO RE-AFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO THE PROCESS AND PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING:

1. TRANSFORMATIVE COMMITMENTS TOWARDS HABITAT III SHOULD EMPHASISE THE FOLLOWING:

- EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS PECULIAR TO BOTH DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; WITH EMPHASIS ON BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN THE INFORMAL AND FORMAL AND URBAN AND RURAL AREAS.
- CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES
- FORWARD PLANNING AND HARNESSING THE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF RAPID URBANISATION
- POLICY FORMULATION PARTICULARLY NATIONAL URBANISATION POLICIES AND HOUSING POLICIES, AND URBAN PLANNING LEGISLATIVE REVIEW. ZAMBIA HAS MADE POSITIVE STRIDES IN THESE AREAS.

2. ZAMBIA ALSO BELIEVES THAT THE REALIZATION OF THE TRANSFORMATIVE COMMITMENTS WILL REQUIRE:

- STRENGTHENING VERTICAL AND HORIZONTAL INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION, AND BUILDING CAPACITY AT ALL LEVELS
- INTEGRATING ISSUES OF SPATIAL PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT IN NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING INSTRUMENTS
- ENGAGEMENT OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION
- PROVISION OF SERVICED LAND AS A PRECURSOR TO URBAN DEVELOPMENT
- SUFFICIENT INVESTMENT IN SOCIAL HOUSING
- ENHANCING AFFORDABLE MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS

3. FURTHERMORE, ADEQUATE FINANCING OF THE NEW URBAN AGENDA AT LOCAL, NATIONAL, AND GLOBAL LEVELS REMAINS KEY FOR SUSTAINABLE IMPLEMENTATION.

IN CONCLUSION, ZAMBIA LOOKS FORWARD TO SUBSTANTIVE DELIBERATIONS THAT WILL CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

WE WISH TO REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE HABITAT III GOALS AND OBJECTIVES AS WE CONTRIBUTE TO DEFINING OUR NEW GLOBAL URBAN AGENDA.

I THANK YOU AND MAY THE GOOD LORD RICHLY BLESS YOU ALL.