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STATEMENT BY HON. MARGARET D. MWANAKATWE, MP, MINISTER
OF COMMERCE, TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND HEAD OF THE
ZAMBIAN DELEGATION TO THE 17TH SESSION OF THE UNIDO
GENERAL CONFERENCE, 27TH NOVEMBER TO 1ST DECEMBER 2017,
VIENNA AUSTRIA.

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

NOVEMBER, 2017

Thank you, Madam President

1. Zambia would like to join previous speakers in congratulating you and the other Members of the Bureau on your election to preside over this 17th Session of the UNIDO General Conference. Zambia assures you of its full cooperation and support.
2. My delegation would also like to convey its appreciation to the outgoing President and Bureau for their leadership and commendable work. In the same vein, I would also like to thank the UNIDO Director General, Mr. Li Yong and the Secretariat Team for their dedication to the important work of UNIDO as well as on the excellent arrangements put in place for this General Conference.
3. Zambia aligns itself with the Statements made by Iran on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, and by Angola on behalf of the Africa Group. We would like to add the following comments in our national capacity.

Madam President,

4. Zambia notes and welcomes the theme for this 17th Session of the General Conference. The theme reflects the prominence of UNIDO's partnership-based approach in promoting the Lima Mandate of Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development and the important role that this will play in the fulfilment of the SDGs, particularly SDG 9 as well as in the implementation of the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA3) for which UNIDO has been assigned the leading role.

5. Meeting the SDG and IDDA3 targets will require a serious rethink of existing traditional engagements among Members and with development partners. As such, we are pleased with UNIDO's new approach which is aimed at strengthening partnerships at national, regional and multilateral levels through the Program for Country Partnership model, among others. Zambia is very keen to be actively involved in this PCP initiative and assures the Director General of its full commitment and support.

6. In this context, Zambia appreciates the innovation and dedication of the Director General and his team in advancing the important work of UNIDO in this area through the development of Programmes for Country Partnerships (PCP) with Member States.

7. We therefore welcome and look forward to the scaling up of PCP implementation to include more member countries beyond the current three pilot countries.

Madam President

8. At national level, we recently launched the Seventh National Development Plan 2017-2021 whose theme is “accelerating development efforts towards the Vision 2030 where we aspire to be a middle-income country. In this plan, we have adopted an integrated multi-sectoral approach to implementation with key interventions focusing in strategic sectors of agriculture, manufacturing, mining, tourism and infrastructure development among others.

9. Our Government is committed to the successful implementation of these and many other initiatives and as such, Zambia will continue to draw on the immense expertise of UNIDO and other development partners for support and best practices.

10. To conclude **Madam President**, I would like to reaffirm Zambia's full cooperation and support to UNIDO in promoting Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development. We look forward to working closely with UNIDO Secretariat, the Member States as well as with the global community towards the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development without leaving anyone behind.

11. I thank you for your kind attention