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STATEMENT
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PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ON
AGENDA ITEM 111: MEASURES TO ELIMINATE
INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

New York
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Chairperson ,

I wish to begin by congratulating you upon your well-deserved election to the bureau and to assure you of Zambia's support throughout the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly .

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by the distinguished representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran , speaking on behalf of the Non -Aligned Movement, and the distinguished representative of the Republic of Ghana speaking on behalf of the African Group. We also wish to join the global community in condemning terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, regardless of the motive , the nature , or the status of the perpetrator.

Chairperson ,

Most of our countries are still grappling with the scourge of terrorism in its different forms and manifestations. We still have a long way to go before we could fully declare victory over the scourge . However, there is hope : While every death is one death too many, let us take special note that our efforts are not in vain . According to the 2020 Global Terrorism Index, terrorism -related deaths fell for the fifth consecutive year in 2019 to 13,826 victims. This represents a 15% drop over the previous year.

However, despite this reduction , my delegation remains concerned over the impact international terrorism has on our economies.

Chairperson ,

In closing, I wish to call upon all Member States of the United Nations to be extremely cautious: During times of conflict, reactive governments and terrorised populations are far more malleable and willing to forego economic and political rights or civil liberties in exchange for peace and security. We must ensure that as we strike the necessary balance , we do not take away our fundamental rights and liberties . For if we fail on this score , who else will be the victors but the terrorists themselves?

I thank you.