



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA



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STATEMENT DLEIVERED

BY

HONOURABLE DAVIES CHAMA, MP

MINISTER OF DEFENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

AT THE

**UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING MINISTERIAL
2019 CONFERENCE**

**NEW YORK
29th March, 2019**

Mr. Chairman,

I take this opportunity to congratulate you for convening this Peacekeeping Defence Ministerial Conference as a follow up to the Vancouver Conference of November 2017.

Zambia acknowledges the Secretary General's Report on Reform and Restructuring of the UN Peace and Security Pillar as contained in document A/72/525 with emphasis on increasing capacity to help prevent conflict and reduce on the need to intervene through large – scale peace operations and large – scale humanitarian responses whilst focusing on the “surge in diplomacy for peace”.

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation also welcomes the reorganization of the Department of Political and Peace Building Affairs with the priority of directing capacity and resources towards prevention of conflicts, mediation, conflict resolution and peace building.

We affirm that Zambia supports the United Nations Declaration of Shared Commitments on UN peacekeeping operations which it endorsed on 17th September 2018 and whose main objective is the renewal of collective engagement by Troop and Police Contributing Countries with UN peacekeeping operations.

Mr. Chairman,

Zambia remains fully committed to participation in the UN and regional peacekeeping operations. Currently we have an Infantry Battalion and an Infantry Company deployed under MINUSCA in Central African Republic (CAR) and we have Military and Police Experts deployed in 5 UN Missions as we keep on supporting the Secretary General's Action for Peacekeeping Initiative (A4P).

To attest to this, the Zambian Contingent Unit in CAR's integrated performance feedback for the year ending 2018 was evaluated as the most

outstanding in protection of civilians, meeting the 15% female participation in peacekeeping and adherence to the zero tolerance to sexual exploitation and abuse policy, among many performance evaluations.

In conclusion, to further enhance peacekeeping operations, Zambia has through Peacekeeping Capabilities Readiness System (PCRS) pledged the deployment of a Medium Utility Helicopter Unit, an Infantry Battalion, Special Forces Company and an Engineer Company.

I thank you.