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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the Assembly of State Parties to the International Criminal Court and has the honour to refer to the latter's note CC-ASP/11/SP/PA/12 regarding the request to provide relevant information on the ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations wishes to forward herewith a copy of a report entitled, "update on Zambia's Implementation Plan of Action of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court" received from the Government of the Republic of Zambia

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the Assembly of State Parties to the International Criminal Court the assurances of its highest consideration.

Secretariat of the International Criminal Court **THE HAQUE**

2nd November, 2012

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UPDATE ON ZAMBIA'S IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN OF ACTION OF THE ROME STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

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This information is provided in line with the Plan of Action of the Assembly of States parties for achieving universality and full implementation of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, specifically paragraph 6, sub-paragraph (h).

a) National Strategies, Planned Activities and Obstacles to Implementation.

Zambia wishes to report that it currently faces no obstacles, legal or otherwise to the full implementation of the Rome Statute.

Zambia further wishes to report that it has held consultations with stakeholders within the country with a view to implementing the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. Subsequent to these consultations, the Ministry of Justice is in the process of drafting the International Criminal Court Bill 2012. The Bill seeks to establish the International Criminal Court in Zambia, provide for investigation and prosecution of genocide, against humanity, war crimes and crime provide for cooperation with the aggression, International Criminal Court and implement the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court of 1998.

Due to the change in Government, the approval in principle given by Cabinet for the drafting of the Bill has lapsed. It has, therefore, become necessary for the Ministry of Justice to seek a fresh mandate from Cabinet to proceed with the draft Bill. The aim of the revision is to bring the Bill in line with the new political dispensation in Zambia. Zambia, however, committed to the full implementation of the Rome Statute.

It is anticipated that the revised Bill will be brought before Parliament in 2013 for consideration and passage into law.

b) Bilateral Cooperation Agreements between the Court and Zambia

Zambia wishes to reiterate that it is committed to cooperating fully with the Court and is willing to consider agreements with the Court that seek to promote this cooperation. However, Zambia believes that it is necessary that the legislation is passed by Parliament before it can enter into such agreements.

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c) National Contact Point for Matters related to promotion of full implementation

Zambia designates the Permanent Secretary-Legislative Drafting in the Ministry of Justice as the National Contact Point for matters related to the promotion of the full implementation of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.