

Thank you, Mr. Chair and good morning,

My delegation would like to commend the UNEP secretariat and the presidency for the work done in coming up with the proposals the seventh session for the UNEA-7 themes.

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of the rule of procedure 18, Zambia, as Vice President of the UNEA7 Bureau, stand ready to support the leadership of the Bureau President in the preparations of the theme for the UNEA7.

The Zambia delegation, therefore, submit that the theme for the UNEA should be anchored on the gains of the past UNEA decisions. We believe that considering the impacts of the triple planetary crisis, UNEA 7 should be themed around emphasizing the need for urgent actions to build resilience to climate change. The theme should support the final collaborative thrust in the implementation of actions towards achieving the SDGs.

Therefore, Zambia is more aligned to proposal theme 1, entitled “forging tomorrow: pathways to a liveable and resilient planet”

I thank you Chair