

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**on**

**COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF CLIMATE CHANGE  
VULNERABILITY, RISK ASSESSMENT, ADAPTATION AND  
MITIGATION**

**between**

**PLANNING**

**THE MINISTRY FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, LAND AND SEA  
OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC**

**and**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA, ACTING  
THROUGH THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**The Government of the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of the Italian Republic and the Republic of Zambia, acting through the Ministry of National Development Planning, hereafter referred to as “the Signatories”;**

**RECALLING** that the Italian Republic and the Republic of Zambia are Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), to the Kyoto Protocol and have signed the Paris Agreement;

**RECALLING** that the 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Parties to the UNFCCC has adopted the Paris Agreement to combat climate change;

**EMPHASIZING** that the Paris Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the UNFCCC, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty;

**TAKING INTO ACCOUNT** Article 4 of the Paris Agreement, and Decisions 1/CP.19, 1/CP.20 and 1/CP.21 of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, which invite all Parties to identify and communicate their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions;

**EMPHASIZING** that enhanced action and international cooperation on mitigation and adaptation is urgently required to enable and support the implementation of actions aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and climate change vulnerability and building resilience;

**EMPHASIZING** the importance of international cooperation on development and on the fight against climate change for developing country Parties, taking into account the urgent and immediate needs of those developing countries that are particularly vulnerable;

**TAKING INTO ACCOUNT** the Decisions 1/CP.16, 9-15/CP.19, 17/CP.21 and 18/CP.21 of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC, which provide a framework for undertaking actions aimed at reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+), promoting sustainable forest management and enhancing forest carbon stocks;

Have entered into the following Memorandum of Understanding:

## **Article 1**

### **Objective**

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding, within the competences of the Signatories, is to develop systematic weather and climate observations and climate change research and to transfer technology for climate change early-warning systems; to strengthen and coordinate the efforts to combat global climate change and address its adverse effects, to support mechanisms to reduce climate change vulnerability and enhance risk assessment, to implement adaptation actions and opportunities to protect the environment and natural resources, to promote secure, clean and efficient energy and to stimulate the transition towards a sustainable low-carbon economy.

## **Article 2**

### **Areas of cooperation**

The Signatories will cooperate, in particular, in the following areas of common interest:

- a) collection, analysis and dissemination of data relevant to the observation of climate change and the measurement of its impact on the potentially vulnerable economic sectors, including enhancement of decentralized climate information services for early warning and long-term projections on the effects of climate change;
- b) support to the implementation, monitoring, reporting and communication of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) of the Republic of Zambia;
- c) promotion of sustainable forest management, including reduction of deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+), and enhancement of afforestation/ reforestation;
- d) promotion of Climate Smart Agricultural (CSA) practices;
- e) promotion of renewable energies and energy efficiency including off-grid renewable energy technologies for rural electrification as decentralized systems, in order to achieve the target established by the Republic of Zambia;
- f) sustainable integrated water management including reduction of water system's vulnerability to climate change impacts;
- g) sustainable waste management;
- h) integrated land use management to promote the sustainable use of resources.

Further areas of cooperation, within the limits of this Memorandum, will be included upon approval by the Signatories.

### **Article 3**

#### **Activities**

The cooperation between the Signatories will be conducted in the following means:

- realization of joint projects;
- capacity building, technology transfer and technical assistance;
- exchange of information and documents related to environment, including programs, publications, expertise and study results;
- exchange of experts and trainees, organization of delegation visits;
- joint organization of workshops, seminars and other meetings;
- promotion of private sector participation and activities to implement Public Private Partnerships;
- enhancement of cooperation with non-governmental organizations with regard to programs and initiatives in the field of environment and sustainable development;
- enhancement of public education and awareness campaigns on measures for adaptation to climate change;
- development of fund raising capacities with regard to global climate change and sustainable development.

Further activities of cooperation, within the limits of this Memorandum, will be included upon approval by the Signatories.

### **Article 4**

#### **Coordination**

4.1 In order to ensure the efficient implementation of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Signatories will establish a Joint Committee.

4.2 The Joint Committee will be composed by two (2) representatives from the Ministry of National Development Planning of the Republic of Zambia, and two (2) representatives from the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of the Italian Republic.

4.3 The Italian Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea will be represented by the Director General of the *Directorate for Sustainable Development, Environmental Damage, European Union and International Affairs*, and one (1) expert.

4.4 The Ministry of National Development Planning of the Republic of Zambia, will be represented by Permanent Secretary, Development Planning and Administration, and one (1) expert.

4.5 The Joint Committee will provide general direction and guidance for the cooperation activities, approve the work plan, supervise and support the cooperation activities and take financial decision.

4.6 During its first meeting, the Joint Committee will adopt the following framework documents:

- *Rules of Procedure;*
- *Financial Document;*
- *Guiding Principles for Bilateral Cooperation Mechanism.*

The Joint Committee will also establish the frequency of the meetings and approve the medium term work plan, including projects and activities, as applicable.

4.7 In the subsequent meetings, the Joint Committee will:

- approve detailed activities and projects, including project budget and schedule, to be implemented and financed, under the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding;
- coordinate the implementation of the activities in the areas specified in Article 2;
- systematically review and assess the status, progress, results achieved, and lessons learned of the cooperation activities.

4.8 The Joint Committee will meet within six (6) months after the signature of the present Memorandum of Understanding.

## **Article 5**

### **Work plan, projects and activities**

5.1 Upon signature of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Signatories will appoint the experts who will prepare a medium term work plan identifying sectors of intervention, to be submitted to the Joint Committee for approval, as stipulated in Article 4.5.

5.2 In the implementation of the programs, projects and activities, consideration will be given to the participation of the public, private and non-profit sectors, including, where appropriate, universities, scientific and technical research bodies, non-governmental organizations, as well as institutions on both sides.

5.3 In the implementation of the programs, projects and activities, no gender discrimination shall be made and equal access to participation and benefits from climate change initiatives shall be guaranteed.

5.4 Taking into account the legal framework of each of the Signatories and their respective national obligations, the implementation of programs, projects and activities will be based on the principles of impartiality, equality, reciprocity and common interest.

## **Article 6**

### **Means of implementation**

6.1 Any costs regarding the subject matter including the programs, activities, and projects under this Memorandum of Understanding will be borne by the Signatories as advised by the Joint Committee and in conformity with their respective national legislation. Such costs will be met with the available budgeted resources of the Signatories and will not, in any event, create additional expenditures for the Government of Zambia and the Government of Italy.

6.2 The Signatories will agree on the financial coverage for the activities and establish a mechanism, under the provisions of their respective national law, for granting transparency of expenditures, accounting and audit.

6.3 The Signatories agree that all the financial resources allocated by the Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of the Italian Republic to the programs, activities and projects, developed under the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding, are not liable to tax, in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Zambia or any other applicable law.

6.4 The means of implementation will be certified in an addendum to be agreed by the Signatories at technical level.

## **Article 7**

### **Law in force**

7.1 This Memorandum of Understanding will not affect or prevent rights and obligations of the Signatories to third parties.

7.2 This Memorandum of Understanding will be implemented in conformity with international law principles, international conventions and protocols signed by the Signatories, national legislation of Zambia and Italy, as well as any other obligation arising from the membership of the Italian Republic in the European Union and from the membership of the Republic of Zambia in the African Union and other regional committees.

## Article 8

### Final Provisions

8.1 The present Memorandum of Understanding becomes effective on the date of the signature and will remain effective for five (5) years, unless one of the Signatories notifies the other in writing, at least six (6) months in advance, of its intention to terminate it.

8.2 The provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by written agreement between the Signatories.

8.3 Any dispute arising from interpretation and implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding will be solved by the Signatories amicably through consultation or negotiations between the Signatories.

8.4 Termination of the present Memorandum of Understanding will have no effect on ongoing cooperation projects and initiatives already agreed upon by the Signatories.

Done in ....., on ....., in two (2) original copies, in English language.

In witness whereof, the Parties have caused this MoU to be executed on the day and year first written above.

**For and on behalf of:**


**The Ministry for the Environment, Land and Sea of the Italian Republic**

Signed: -----

Name: Sergio Costa

Designation: Minister for the Environment, Land and Sea

**In the presence of:**

Signed: -----

Name: CHOLA J. CIMBALA.

For and on behalf of:


The Government of the Republic of Zambia, acting through the Ministry of National Development Planning

Signed: -----

Name: Alexandr Chiteme

Designation: Minister of National Development Planning

In the presence of:

Signed: -----

Name: LT COL CHRIS MUMBERE