



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations

237 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022 Tel: +1(212) 888-5770 Fax: +1(212) 888-5213 Email: Zambia@un.int

Media Statement

For Immediate Release

President Sata demands for Africa's permanent seats on UN Security Council

New York, Monday, September 24, 2012 – His Excellency, Mr Michael Chilufya Sata, President of the Republic of Zambia, today demanded that Africa must have permanent seats on the UN Security Council.

Addressing the High-Level meeting on the Rule of Law in the United Nations General Assembly Hall in New York, President Sata urged Africans to “stand up and be counted”.

“Since the League of Nations up to today, Africa is more of a spectator than a participant. We have no permanent members in the Security Council and yet we represent 54 members in this House,” said President Sata. “We cannot talk of rule of law when we are not respecting each other. Therefore, all Africans must stand up and be counted. We must become permanent members of the Security Council.”

The League of Nations was the forerunner of the United Nations.

President Sata’s statement is in line with the Committee of 10, commonly known as C10, which is an African Union (AU)-formation advocating for Africa to have two permanent seats on the UN Security Council with veto powers and extra two non-permanent seats to address the historical injustices that Africa suffered and to adhere to the geo-political realities of the modern times.

Zambia and Namibia are two countries that represent the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region on the C10.

Out of the 193 members of the UN, Africa has 54 states, making it the continent with the highest number of UN member states.

Currently the UN Security Council is composed of five permanent members — China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States of America — and 10 non-permanent members of which only South Africa, Morocco and Togo are from Africa. The non-permanent seats are on a two-year regional rotation basis.

Issued by:

CHIBAULA D. SILWAMBA (Mr.)

First Secretary for Press and Public Relations

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www.zambiaun.com Mobile: +1(646)2405430, Email: chibaula@zambiaun.com