



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
GENEVA

OHCHR REGISTRY

22 JUL 2010

Recipients: SPD

Note No.167/10

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and has the honour to refer to the questionnaire on good practices related to access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

The Government of the Republic of Zambia and the National Water Supply and Sanitation Council wishes to submit the following response:

The National Water Policy of 1994, the 1994 National Environmental Support Programme and the Water Resources Master Plan 1995 to 2015 have outlined strategies and comprehensive plans of action to develop the water sector in order to enhance access to safe drinking water and sanitation. In addition, Government is developing a new legal and institutional framework that is self sustaining and which takes into consideration the decentralization policy. The legal framework for water supply and sanitation is currently anchored in two main pieces of legislation, namely, the Local Government Act No.22 of 1991 and the Water Supply and Sanitation Act (WSA) No.28 of 1997.

The WSA establishes the National Water Supply and Sanitation Council and define its functions. In addition, the Act provides for the establishment, by local authorities, of water supply and sanitation utilities. Further, it provides for the efficient and sustainable supply of water and sanitation services under the general regulation of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Council.

Other Legislation which has impact on the provision of clean water includes the Environmental Protection and Pollution Act 1990, whose purpose is protection of the environment and control of pollution, and the Public Health Act of 1995, which has provisions for the management of sanitation and prevention of pollution to water supplies. Government has also put in place strategies to provide adequate, safe and cost effective water supply and sanitation services. The strategies are being implemented by key water sector institutions such as the Ministry of Energy and Water Dvelopment,

Environmental Council of Zambia, Ministry of Health, the Water Development Board and Support Services, etc.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Geneva, 21st July 2010

Independent Expert on the issue of Human Rights Obligation related to Access to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

ESCR Section

Human Rights Council and Special Procedures Division

UNOG-OHCHR

Palais des Nations

1211 Geneva 10

