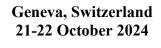
INTERSESSIONAL PANEL OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD)



Contribution by Zambia

to the CSTD 2024-2025 priority theme on "Diversifying economies in a world of accelerated digitalization"

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1. Specific challenges Zambia faces in developing or adapting frontier technologies and AI:

- 1. Limited infrastructure (reliable electricity, internet connectivity)
- 2. Shortage of skilled professionals in AI and related fields
- 3. Inadequate funding for research and development
- 4. Lack of awareness and understanding of AI's potential benefits
- 5. Data scarcity and quality issues

2. Successful examples of AI and other frontier technologies uptake in Zambia:

- 1. Mobile money platforms for financial inclusion
- 2. AI-powered agricultural advisory services
- 3. Drones for medical supply delivery in remote areas

3. Inclusive policies for innovation and economic diversification tailored to digital technologies and AI:

- 1. National AI Policy(Strategy) in development
- 2. Digital transformation strategy
- 3. Initiatives to promote digital skills training

4. Policy instruments favoring frontier technology diffusion in the economy and targeting specific sectors:

- 1. Tax incentives for technology adoption
- 2. Regulatory sandboxes for AI experimentation
- 3. Public-private partnerships to promote innovation

5. Mechanisms to strengthen industrial capabilities through partnerships:

- 1. University-industry collaborations on research projects
- 2. Private-public partnerships for technology transfer
- 3. Support for startup incubators and accelerators

- 6. How international cooperation can support the uptake of new technologies and development of technological capabilities:
- 1. Technology transfer and knowledge sharing
- 2. Financial and technical assistance
- 3. Capacity building programs for researchers and policymakers
- 7. What the UN CSTD can do to support an economic transformation that enhances Zambia's productive capabilities and fosters an inclusive digital transformation:
- 1. Provide a platform for knowledge exchange and best practices sharing
- 2. Facilitate partnerships between Zambian stakeholders and international organizations
- 3. Advocate for increased investment in Zambia's technology and innovation ecosystem

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