

**Statement by the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe at the Ninth Session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development, 1 – 3 December 2025**

Your Excellencies, Co-Chairs of the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,

From the outset, my delegation wishes to associate itself with the statements by the G77 and China, the Africa Group and the Group of Friends in Defence of the Charter of the United Nations. We take note of the statement by the Secretary General and the keynote addresses delivered this morning. We also thank the Secretariat for the background document that will guide our discussions over the coming days.

Chairperson,

The current global approach to development financing falls far short of requirements, lacking in both adequacy and fairness against the backdrop of ballooning needs. The Sustainable Development Goals face an annual financing gap of US\$4.3 trillion annually, and this gap continues to widen. Official Development Assistance has long been in decline, and longstanding commitments by developed countries, including

the pledge to allocate 0.7% of their Gross National Income (GNI), remain largely unfulfilled.

At the same time, developing countries, particularly in Africa, have been saddled with mounting debt challenges and heightened prospects of debt distress, the continued global tightening of monetary policy, illicit financial flows, Unilateral Coercive Measures (UCMs), heightened trade tensions, increased vulnerabilities due to climate change and geopolitical divisions. The result has been a reversal of development gains in some regions. In order to realise the SDGs, we must move with resolve towards bold structural reforms grounded in equity, solidarity and mutual accountability.

Chairperson,

Given the current intractable economic circumstances, developing countries find it extremely difficult to confront climate challenges, build climate resilient economies and foster structural transformation in a complementary way, without the effective support of the international community.

Available options for financing the SDGs remain very limited, and it is therefore essential that we urgently adopt ambitious reforms

to deliver affordable long-term financing to developing countries. We call for comprehensive debt relief measures to alleviate the debt burden. We advocate for the reform of the international financial architecture to achieve a more inclusive and equitable financial framework that facilitates access to essential financial resources, enhances global financial stability and supports sustainable development.

Chairperson,

My delegation welcomes the adoption of the FfD4 Outcome Document and the specific measures it outlines to mobilize adequate resources and unlock the high levels of investment required to bridge the SDG financing gap. Our focus must now shift decisively to full and effective implementation.

I thank you.