

**Madam Chair,**

Being the first time that my delegation takes the floor in this session, I would like to join the previous speakers in congratulating you on your election as Chairman of the Second Committee, and also congratulate the other members of the Bureau. I am confident that under your able leadership, the work of the Committee will be crowned with success.

My delegation would like to thank the Secretary-General for the informative report on agenda item 69, which is under our consideration today.

**Madam Chair,**

We fully support the information highlights in the SG's report regarding the latest progress in my country. However, we find that the report fails to outline the steps and the results on the implementation of resolution 59/216.

My delegation would like the report to reflect the measures and practices that have contributed to the implementation of the resolution under discussion.

This procedure allows us to follow the best practices, as well as to identify those that do not result in success.

Having in mind that the Government of Angola bears the primary responsibility for improving the humanitarian situation in the country, as well as for creating the conditions for long-term development and poverty reduction, we would like to underline some actions taken with a view to implementing resolution 59/216.

Angola recognizes that lasting peace and stability are a prerequisite for realizing the objectives for development. As a signatory to the African Peer Review Mechanism, Angola has been committed to good economic, social, and political governance.

With the end of the armed conflict in 2002, the Government of the Republic of Angola elaborated a Poverty Combat Strategy and a National Development Program for the biennium 2002-2004 and 2005-2006, whose intervention areas have been the follows: social reintegration; mine action; rural development and food safety; fighting HIV/AIDS; education;

rehabilitation of infrastructures; employment and professional training; macroeconomic administration and good governance.

The implementation of the policies and measures contained in these national development programs has allowed for the accomplishment of many actions and has produced positive results in the macroeconomic field, with economic stabilization translated in the reduction of inflation rates and in the increase of the per capita GDP. There was also an improvement in social indicators, namely the increase of life expectancy per inhabitant; the increase in the percentage of persons completing primary education; larger access to drinking water and basic sanitation; and progress in the equality between the genders.

The fight against HIV/AIDS continues to represent a great challenge for the Angolan Government. In this context, an Operational Plan was conceived whose main objective is to maintain the low level of prevalence of 2,8% of the adult population, and of reversing this situation. The Operational Plan contains programs such as education and sensitization for the use of condoms; halting vertical HIV transmission; construction of counseling and voluntary testing centers; the extension of anti-retroviral therapy to all the areas affected; and granting better access to condoms. These programs are all underway; however, we face challenges such as the lack of resources and institutional capacity to maintain them.

In the political field, Angola's priority is the pursuit of reforms in the context of consolidating the democratic system and of the rule of law, aware that these are a pre-requisite for the maintenance of political stability, for assuring respect for citizen's human rights and for achieving economic development. Furthermore, the preparation of the next electoral process is underway.

Madam Chair,

In spite of this progress, the reconstruction of the country, the reintegration of internally displaced persons, refugees and former-combatants, the rehabilitation of the economy and the reduction of poverty still pose a great challenge for my country.

In this context, assistance from the international community remains an essential factor to overcome these challenges. It is certain that these tasks are

no longer within the realm of humanitarian assistance, and for this reason my delegation would like to appeal to this Committee to consider countries whose situation is analogous to Angola, that are in a transition process heading for economic growth and sustainable development.

My delegation supports the inclusion in the agenda of the United Nations of a point that allows the debate and adoption of political recommendations for these realities.

Madam Chair,

A true partnership with the international community should be achieved by the improvement of institutional capacity combined with the provision of resources for the rehabilitation of countries like Angola.

To conclude, my delegation would like to express its gratitude to the donors and United Nations agencies, funds and programs for the assistance provided to Angola in support of initiatives and programs for the relief of humanitarian crisis and poverty reduction.

I thank you