**SECURITY COUNCIL**

**DRAFT RESOLUTION UNSC MH 17 TRIBUNAL**

**JULY 29th, 2015**

**EXPLANATION VOTE**

Mr. President,

Angola abstained in today's vote on the Draft Resolution tabled by Malaysia on the establishment of an international tribunal for the persecution of those responsible for crimes connected with the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH 17.

At the outset, Mr. President, let me be clear: we condemn, in the strongest possible terms the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17 on 17 July 2014 in Donetsk, Ukraine, a tragic event which resulted in the loss of all 298 passengers on board and crew members.

We emphasize the need and importance of holding accountable those responsible for this act, in order to make justice to the victims and their families, set an example that acts like that can't go unpunished and protect civil aviation from such intolerable deeds.

Nevertheless, we are convinced that Resolution 2166 (2014) continues to be the applicable legal framework for international cooperation in the interest of a full, thorough, independent, and transparent investigation into the incident in accordance with international civil aviation guidelines, since the criminal international investigation is not finished yet.

In that sense we are of the view that, at this stage, Member States should engage a comprehensive process of consultation, and as Security Council Resolution 2166 stipulates, the Secretary-general should identify possible options for United Nations support to the investigation and report to the Security Council on relevant developments related to the investigation.

We are therefore convinced that the establishment of a Tribunal is a premature solution and, that the most appropriate way of action should be to wait for the results of investigation.

We regret that, once more, the Security Council was not able to reach the required level of compromise for the consensus needed in a text accepted by all members.

Thank you Mr. President