

RC75 Journal English - Day 1

25 August 2025



The 75th session of the WHO regional committee opens with Africa mobilized for health for all



I am honored to welcome you to Lusaka, Zambia, for the Seventy-fifth session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa, convened with the invaluable support of the Government of Zambia.

This year’s session comes at a pivotal moment. Our continent continues to grapple with entrenched health challenges while also seizing new opportunities for transformation. The recurrent cholera outbreaks, resurgent malaria, and the unfinished task of polio eradication remind us of our vulnerability. Yet they also underscore our capacity to adapt, innovate, and build stronger systems when we work together.

Africa still bears a disproportionate share of the global disease burden. This burden is compounded by climate change, fragile economies, conflict, and population displacement. But across the Region, we are also seeing remarkable progress: stronger health emergency workforces, advances in rehabilitation services, integration of oral health and noncommunicable disease services, and increasing domestic and regional investments in vaccines, medicines, and health technologies.

This 75th session will deliberate on bold strategies to accelerate universal health coverage, protect populations against emergencies, and strengthen health and well-being for all. Critical agenda items include frameworks on oral health and blood safety, strategies to improve women’s, children’s, and adolescents’ health, scaling up rehabilitation and community engagement, and advancing malaria elimination. We will also examine how to accelerate domestic investment, strengthen data systems, and reinforce accountability for health in Africa.

Walk the talk raises awareness about healthy lifestyles at RC75



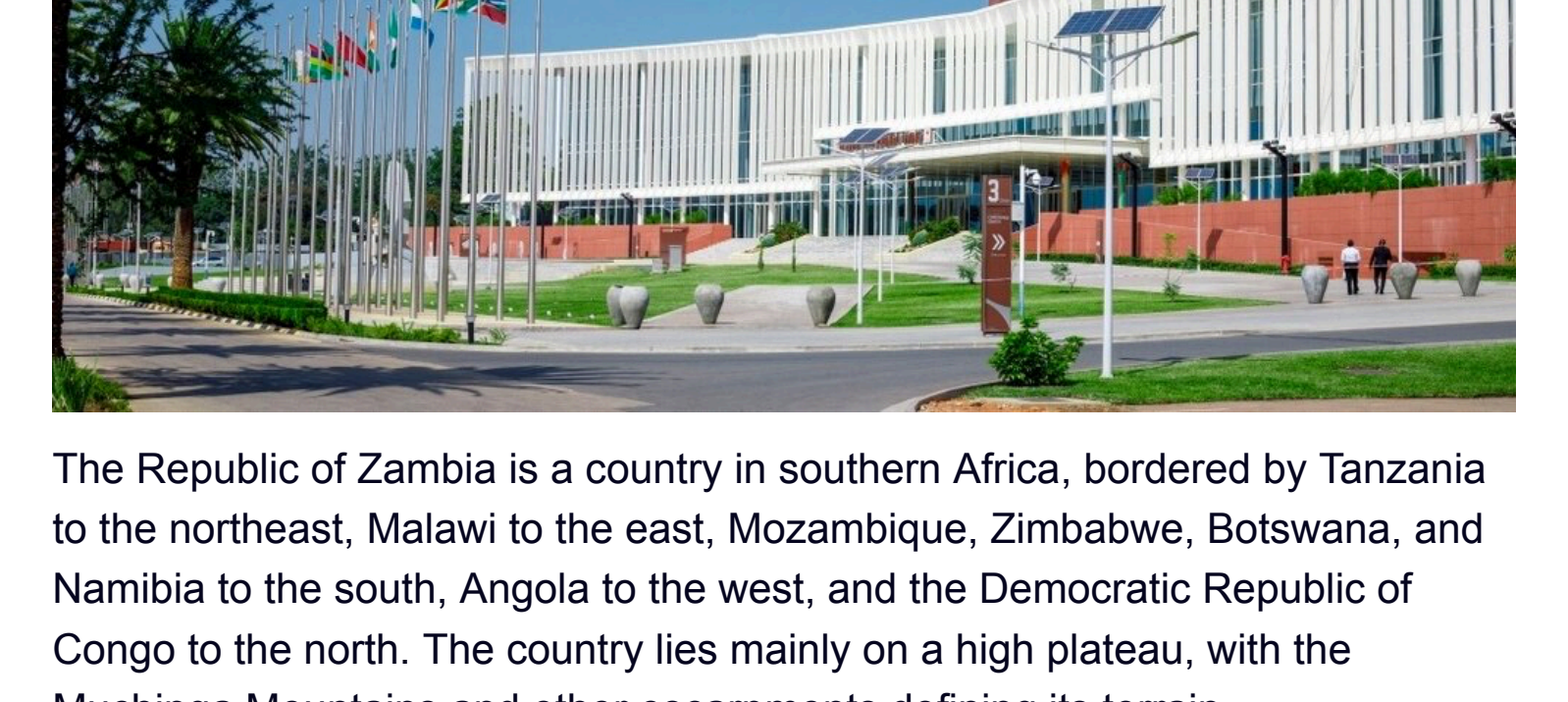
On the sidelines of the 75th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa, held from August 25 to 27, 2025, in Lusaka, Zambia, a fitness walk, *Walk the Talk*, was organized this Sunday, August 24.

In a festive atmosphere, accompanied by the brass band of the Zambian Armed Forces, around a thousand people walked nearly 6 kilometers.

The event aims to promote physical activity and healthy lifestyles, which are key preventive measures against non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

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Zambia: the host country of RC75 in a few words



The Republic of Zambia is a country in southern Africa, bordered by Tanzania to the northeast, Malawi to the east, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and Namibia to the south, Angola to the west, and the Democratic Republic of Congo to the north. The country lies mainly on a high plateau, with the Muchinga Mountains and other escarpments defining its terrain.

Its most famous natural feature is Victoria Falls (Mosi-oa-Tunya), one of the largest waterfalls in the world and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The highest point is the Mafinga Hills, rising to about 2,339 meters above sea level.

This year, the Seventy-fifth session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa (RC75) is being held in Lusaka, Zambia, at the Mulungushi International Conference Centre (MICC)—a modern and massive facility that stands as a symbol of Zambia’s role in hosting major continental and global gatherings.

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Important contacts during RC75

Emergency Medical Services

Delegates in need of medical assistance are advised to visit the sick bay at the conference venue. Delegates on long-term medication are advised to carry sufficient supplies throughout their stay in Zambia. For medical emergencies occurring outside the conference facilities, delegates should contact the Ministry of Health using the following emergency numbers and the contact offices:

- Dr Astridah Makasa (DHD Lusaka) +260 967458580 (Medical Services)
- Dr Charles Msisika (MoH) +260977824736 (Medical Services)
- Jonathan Tapalu (MoH) +260979231450
- Dr Richard Nsakanya (MoH) +260966187854.

All emergency hospital services for delegates will be arranged by the medical personnel covering the meeting.

Security Emergency Contacts

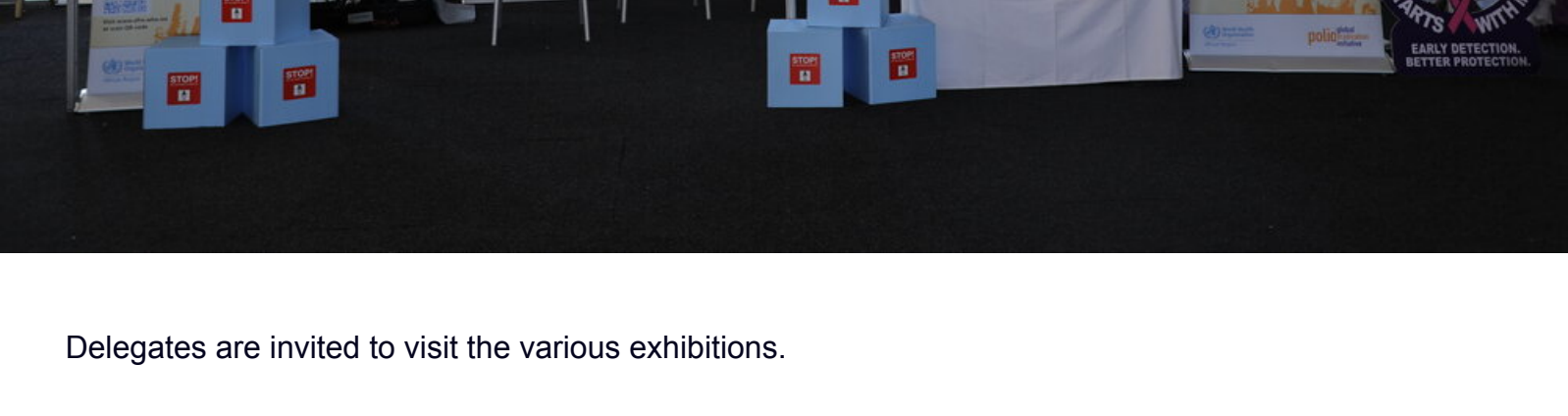
Ms Albertina Mugunga, UNDSS Security Officer in Zambia

Email: mununga@un.org

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RC75 Exhibition



Delegates are invited to visit the various exhibitions.