Co-Chairs,

Thank you, distinguished panelists for the insightful presentations on this very important topic, that is critical for the achievement of the objectives of not only the ABAS, but the 2030 Agenda as well.

In today’s interconnected world, data and digital technologies are crucial for fostering resilience and sustainable development. Zimbabwe, like the SIDS, faces unique challenges that can be effectively addressed through innovative solutions. Allow me, Co-Chairs, to suggest a few.

Firstly, data is a powerful tool for informed decision-making. Accurate, timely, and disaggregated data enables us to understand vulnerabilities, and plan effective responses. We call for initiatives to enhance technology transfer, data collection, and sharing of experiences amongst developed and developing nations, to ensure that all countries benefit from comprehensive and actionable insights.

Secondly, digital technologies offer transformative potential for resilience, and these technologies should be shared to bridge developmental gaps and enhance the quality of life in remote and vulnerable communities. This is a critical component of the Early Warning for All Initiative that was launched by the United Nations Secretary General, Antonio Guterres.

Thirdly, building effective institutions is equally vital, as strong, transparent and accountable institutions is critical. The timely conclusion of the discussions on the Global Digital Compact is critical, and we call on all
development partners to support countries that face unique challenges, like the SIDS and the LLDCs.

Lastly, partnerships and collaborations are key, for the sharing of best practices, and pooling resources together, to amplify efforts towards the attainment of better futures. Zimbabwe is committed to collaborating with the SIDS and other developing countries to leverage digital technologies and build resilience.

Excellencies,

Zimbabwe reiterates the need to prioritize data, embrace digital innovation, and strengthen institutions, to build a resilient future for all vulnerable countries. Let us commit to these strategies for a sustainable future for SIDS.

I thank you.