



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

MINISTRY OF MINES, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

**DEPUTY MINISTER OF MINES, ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT,
HONOURABLE CHARLES ZULU M.P: CLIMATE RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE
SUMMIT**

SPEECH

APRIL, 2015

YOUR EXCELLENCIES

HONOURABLE MINISTERS

**INVITED GUESTS,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN**

IT IS WITH GREAT HONOR AND EXPECTATION THAT I STAND HERE TODAY TO PARTICIPATE AND MAKE THIS ADDRESS TO THE FIRST AFRICAN CLIMATE RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE SUMMIT. ALLOW ME TO EXPRESS MY UTMOST GRATITUDE TO THE ORGANIZERS FOR HOSTING THIS FORUM AND FOR THE WARMEST HOSPITALITY OF THE ETHIOPIAN PEOPLE. THIS FORUM LADIES AND GENTLEMEN PROVIDES AN IDEAL PLATFORM FOR US TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT WHICH WILL BE THE MOST AFFECTED CONTINENT BY CLIMATE CHANGE.

THE EXCELLENT PLATFORM ACCORDED HERE PROVIDES VARIOUS INVESTORS AND ACTORS TO SHOW CASE THEIR VARIOUS UNDERTAKINGS, AND ALSO FOR NATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS, COMPANIES AND INDIVIDUALS TO LEARN FROM EACH OTHER'S EXPERIENCES AND TO FORGE PARTNERSHIPS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF OUR COUNTRIES.

EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN (DELEGATES)

ZAMBIA IS ENDOWED WITH A WIDE RANGE OF ENERGY RESOURCES, PARTICULARLY WOODLANDS AND FORESTS, HYDROPOWER, COAL AND OTHER RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY. HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT ZAMBIA IS IMMUNED TO THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE. THE FACT THAT ENERGY IS A KEY DRIVER OF ANY ECONOMIC GROWTH, THE WORLD ECONOMY NEEDS EVER-INCREASING SUPPLY OF ENERGY TO SUSTAIN ECONOMIC GROWTH, RAISE LIVING STANDARDS, AND REDUCE POVERTY.

THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT IS ALIVE TO THE FACT THAT TODAY'S TRENDS IN ENERGY CONSUMPTION ARE NOT SUSTAINABLE. AS THE WORLD'S POPULATION GROWS AND ECONOMIES BECOME MORE INDUSTRIALIZED, NON-RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES WILL CONTINUE TO DIMINISH AND BECOME MORE COSTLY. AFRICA NEEDS CLIMATE RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE TO SPUR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY.

ZAMBIA HAS THE INSTALLED CAPACITY OF 2316MW OF WHICH 97% IS FROM HYDRO AND 3% FROM OTHERS SOURCES. THIS MAKES IT VERY VULNERABLE TO THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE. THE COUNTRY IS CURRENTLY UNDERGOING A POWER DEFICIT AS A RESULT OF CLIMATE CHANGE. THE POOR RAINFALL FROM THE 2014-2015 RAIN SEASONS HAS LEAD TO LOW LEVELS OF WATER IN THE KARIBA DAM, WHICH HAS

RESULTED IN REDUCTION OF GENERATION CAPACITY BY 200MW. THE GOVERNMENT HAS REALIZED THE NEED TO ENCOURAGE INVESTMENT IN ENERGY RESILIENT PROJECTS SO AS TO REDUCE ON FUTURE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE.

EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN (DELEGATES)

MY COUNTRY ZAMBIA HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTING A NUMBER OF ENERGY PROJECTS WHICH CAN BE SAID TO BE CLIMATE RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SOMETIME NOW. MOST OF THESE ARE TRANSMISSION LINES SUCH AS:

- ZAMBIA-TANZANIA-KENYA INTERCONNECTOR WHICH IS EXPECTED TO TRADE 2,800GW OF ELECTRIC POWER ANNUALLY;
- ZAMBIA-DR CONGO INTERCONNECTOR PROJECT.
- ZIMBABWE- ZAMBIA- BOTSWANA-NAMIBIA INTERCONNECTOR PROJECT.

ALL THESE PROJECTS ARE AIMED AT ENHANCING THE SECURITY OF SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY AMONG THE COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE.

THE CONTRIBUTION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY IN THE ENERGY MIX IN ZAMBIA IS INSIGNIFICANT. TO CHANGE THIS SCENARIO, THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT HAS INITIATED A NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES WHICH INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING;

1. THE INTRODUCTION OF A FEED –IN – TARIFF (REFIT) POLICY. A DRAFT POLICY HAS ALREADY DEVELOPED AND AWAITS CABINENT APPROVAL. THE POLICY IS AIMED AT PROVIDING PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR PROMOTING INVESTMENT IN RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES.

2. AS A WAY OF PROMOTING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INVESTMENTS IN RENEWABLE ENERGY SUB-SECTOR, THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT WITH THE HELP OF THE WORLD BANK IS DEVELOPING A RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCE MAP OF THE COUNTRY, WITH THE INITIAL FOCUS ON WIND AND SOLAR RESOURCES. THIS IS AIMED AT PROMOTING INVESTMENT IN CLIMATE RESILIENT ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE SUCH AS SOLAR POWERPLANTS AND WIND FARMS.

FURTHER THE ZAMBIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ADOPTED AN OPEN ACCESS REGIME TO THE NATIONAL GRIDE WHICH WILL ENABLE INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCERS TO USE THE NATIONAL GRIDE IN WHEELING POWER TO THEIR OFFTAKERS. TO THIS EFFECT THE GRID CODE ADOPTED)

EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN (DELEGATES)

AS YOU MAY BE AWARE ZAMBIA IS A MIDDLE INCOME DEVELOPING COUNTRY WITH LUCRATIVE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN TOURISM, AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURING, ENERGY AND MINING, ZAMBIA HAS SEEN IN THE PAST 3 YEARS MAJOR CLIMATE RESILIENT

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS BEING IMPLEMENTED IN THE MINING, WATER, TRANSPORT AND ENERGY SECTORS. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS MAY SEEM A LONG-TERM CHALLENGE. HOWEVER, THE SCALE OF INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE, AND THE INCREASING EXPOSURE TO CLIMATE RISK, MEANS THAT ACTION TO IMPROVE THE CLIMATE RESILIENCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE IS NEEDED. TO ENSURE ITS VIABILITY OVER ITS LIFETIME, WHEN MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT THE PROVISION OF NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE IT WILL THEREFORE BE IMPORTANT TO ALLOW FOR FUTURE CLIMATE CHANGE AND AVOID CLOSING OFF OPTIONS, MAKING IT HARDER AND MORE COSTLY TO ADAPT INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE FUTURE.

EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN (DELEGATES)

AFRICA NEEDS TO ADAPT INFRASTRUCTURE TO CHANGING CLIMATE NEEDS. THIS COULD BE CONSIDERED IN TWO WAYS, FIRST, WHEN CONSTRUCTING NEW INFRASTRUCTURE, CLIMATE RESILIENCE CAN BE ENSURED BY LOCATING, DESIGNING AND OPERATING AN ASSET WITH THE CURRENT AND FUTURE CLIMATE IN MIND. THIS IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN THE CASE OF LARGE INFRASTRUCTURE WHICH USUALLY HAS A LIFESPAN OF AT LEAST 20 YEARS AND INVESTMENT DECISIONS THEREFORE INFLUENCE FUTURE GENERATIONS' WELLBEING. SECONDLY, EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE CAN BE MADE MORE CLIMATE-RESILIENT BY ENSURING THAT MAINTENANCE REGIMES INCORPORATE RESILIENCE TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE OVER AN ASSET'S LIFETIME. Further, INVESTMENT AND POLICY SHOULD ADVANCE TECHNOLOGIES THAT ARE

CAPABLE OF IMPROVING RESILIENT AND SUSTANABLE INFRUSTRUCTURS.

HOWEVER, SUCH MEASURES COME WITH HUGE COSTS, WHICH MOST AFRICAN COUNTRIES CANNOT MEET WITH THEIR OWN FINANCIAL RESOURCES. HENCE THE NEED FOR PARTNERING WITH OTHER COOPERATING PARTNERS AND INVOLVEMENT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR. TO ACHIEVE THIS, AFRICAN GOVERNMENT'S NEED TO COME UP WITH APPROPRIATE POLICIES AND INCENTIVES THAT CAN ATTRACT PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN IMPLEMENTING ENERGY RESILIENT PROJECTS.

EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN (DELEGATES)

ZAMBIA IS STRATEGICALLY LOCATED AND AS A RESULT WE FORESEE ZAMBIA BEING A LAND LINKED COUNTRY. IT IS MY CONVICTION THAT THIS FORUM WILL HELP UNLOCK SOME OF THE TECHNOLOGICAL AND INVESTMENT CHALLENGES ASSOCIATED WITH CLIMATE RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN OUR COUNTRIES. WITH THESE FEW WORDS I END MY PRESENTATION.

I THANK YOU.