



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

**SPEECH BY**

**HER HONOUR THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
ZAMBIA MRS. INONGE MUTUKWA WINA, MP**

**AT THE INVESTOR CONFERENCE FOR THE BATOKA GORGE  
HYDRO ELECTRIC SCHEME,**

**HELD ON 30TH MARCH, 2017,**

**AT DAVID LIVINGSTONE SAFARI LODGE, LIVINGSTONE,  
ZAMBIA**

CABINET OFFICE

LUSAKA

MARCH, 2017

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- HON. MINISTER OF FINANCE FOR ZAMBIA, MR. FELIX MUTATI, MP;
  - HON. PATRICK CHINAMASA, MP, MINISTER OF FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR ZIMBABWE;
  - HON. MINISTER OF ENERGY FOR ZAMBIA, MR. DAVID MABUMBA, MP;
  - HON. DR. SAMUEL UNDEGE, MP, MINISTER OF ENERGY AND POWER DEVELOPMENT FOR ZIMBABWE;
  - HON. MINISTER OF WATER DEVELOPMENT, SANITATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR ZAMBIA, MR. LLOYD M. KAZIYA, MP;
  - HON. OPPAH M. KASHIRI MP, MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND CLIMATE;
  - HON. MINISTER OF COMMERCE, TRADE AND INDUSTRY FOR ZAMBIA, MRS. MARGARET MWANAKATWE, MP;
  - HON. PROVINCIAL MINISTER FOR SOUTHERN PROVINCE IN ZAMBIA; DR. EDIFY HAMUKALE, MP;
  - MR. AMADOU HOTT, THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK;
  - MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT PRESENT FROM ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE;
  - SENIOUR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE;
  - AMBASSADORS AND HIGH COMMISSIONERS HERE PRESENT;
  - YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESSES, CHIEF MUKUNI AND CHIEF SHANA;
  - REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORLD BANK, AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, EUROPEAN UNION AND THE SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY;
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- INVESTORS AND CONTRACTORS PRESENT;
- REPRESENTATIVES OF ZESCO AND ZESA HOLDINGS;
- DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

IT IS AN HONOUR FOR ME TO BE HERE THIS MORNING TO OFFICIALLY OPEN THIS INVESTOR CONFERENCE WHOSE THEME IS, "**BATOKA GORGE HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME – HARNESSING SUSTAINABLE POWER GENERATION POTENTIAL OF THE MIGHTY ZAMBEZI RIVER**".

I AM AWARE THAT THIS CONFERENCE HAS BROUGHT TOGETHER INVESTORS, INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES, DEVELOPMENT FINANCING INSTITUTIONS AND POLICY MAKERS AMONG OTHERS. MY PRESENCE HERE BEFORE YOU, IS A CLEAR TESTIMONY THAT THE TWO GOVERNMENTS OF ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE APPRECIATE THE GREAT IMPORTANCE OF THE ROLE YOU WILL PLAY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BATOKA GORGE HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME.

**DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

THE TWO GOVERNMENTS RECOGNISE THAT SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF ANY COUNTRY OR REGION, CANNOT BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT SUSTAINABLE POWER GENERATION. AS SUCH, THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS GOVERNING THE ZAMBEZI RIVER AUTHORITY, ON BEHALF OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, AT ITS MEETING HELD IN FEBRUARY, 2012, RESOLVED TO EMBARK ON THE

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DEVELOPMENT OF THE BATOKA GORGE HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME. THIS WAS AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF THE POWER DEFICIT THE TWO COUNTRIES AND THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION IN GENERAL WERE FACING. ONCE COMMISSIONED, THE PROJECT WILL GENERATE A TOTAL OF 2,400 MEGAWATTS AND IS ESTIMATED TO COST US\$ 4 BILLION.

**DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THIS CONFERENCE IS TO PRESENT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY THE PROJECT. DURING THE PROCEEDINGS OF THIS CONFERENCE, YOU SHALL BE PROVIDED WITH DETAILS OF THE MODE OF DEVELOPMENT FOR THE BATOKA GORGE HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME. IN ADDITION, YOU WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED WITH THE AREAS OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROJECT.

THE ZAMBEZI RIVER AUTHORITY SHALL IMPLEMENT THIS MULTI-BILLION DOLLAR PROJECT IN COLLABORATION WITH THE TWO NATIONAL ELECTRICITY UTILITIES, NAMELY ZESCO LIMITED IN ZAMBIA AND ZESA HOLDINGS IN ZIMBABWE WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

I WISH TO INFORM THIS GATHERING THAT DUE TO THE CRITICAL ROLE ENERGY PLAYS IN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE DECLARED ENERGY AS A PRIORITY SECTOR.

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**DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

THIS PROJECT HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A PRIORITY PROJECT UNDER THE PROGRAMME FOR INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA (PIDA) UNDER THE NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (NEPAD). IT HAS ALSO BEEN CATEGORISED AS A PRIORITY UNDER BOTH THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY (SADC) AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN POWER POOL (SAPP).

INDEED, THIS PROJECT PRESENTS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACTUALISE THE ATTAINMENT OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL (SDG) NUMBER SEVEN WHICH AIMS AT ENSURING ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL, AS IT IS ONE OF THE LEAST COST GENERATION PROJECTS. THE PROJECT WILL GENERATE GREEN JOBS AND POWER THE GROWTH OF NOT ONLY THE TWO COUNTRIES OF ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE, BUT THE REGIONAL ECONOMIES AS WELL.

I WISH, THEREFORE, TO ASSURE YOU OF THE UTMOST POLITICAL WILL AND COMMITMENT FROM THE HIGHEST OFFICES OF BOTH ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROJECT. WE HAVE IN THE TWO COUNTRIES LIBERALISED THE MARKET IN THE ENERGY SECTOR IN ORDER TO ALLOW PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION.

FURTHER, WE HAVE ACCOMMODATIVE FISCAL ENVIRONMENTS FOR SUCH DEVELOPMENTS AND TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS POLICIES THAT

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ASSURE MARKETS ACROSS THE AFRICAN REGION. WITH THE ZAMBIA-TANZANIA-KENYA INTERCONNECTOR BEING DEVELOPED, THE POWER STATION WILL PROVIDE ELECTRICITY TO NOT JUST THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN REGION, BUT ALSO POTENTIALLY, TO THE EAST AFRICAN REGION THAT MAY FACE POWER DEFICITS.

**DISTINGUISHED GUESTS,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

WE ARE FURTHER COMMITTED TO ENSURING THAT THE PRICE OF POWER IS COST-REFLECTIVE TO ACCOMMODATE FULL RECOVERY OF INVESTMENTS BY THE INVESTOR COMMUNITY.

AS GOVERNMENTS, WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR SUPPORT, WHICH WILL ENABLE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THIS VERY IMPORTANT PROJECT FOR THE BENEFIT OF MOST OF THE COUNTRIES IN THE SOUTHERN AND EAST AFRICAN REGIONS.

I WISH ALSO TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MENTION HERE THAT OUR TWO COUNTRIES WILL ALWAYS ENDEAVOUR TO WORK TOGETHER ON PROJECTS OF MUTUAL BENEFIT BECAUSE OF OUR LONG CORDIAL RELATIONSHIP THAT HAS EXISTED FOR MANY YEARS WITH REGARD TO THE MANAGEMENT OF OUR WATER BODIES. HISTORY IS THERE TO BE TOLD. WE ARE, THEREFORE, OPTIMISTIC THAT ANY PROJECT, OF THIS NATURE, BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, SHALL ALWAYS GIVE US THE INTENDED RESULTS FOR THE CONTINUED BENEFIT OF OUR PEOPLE INCLUDING THOSE OF OUR NEIGHBOURS.

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TO THE MANY OTHER DEVELOPERS GATHERED HERE WITH US, I SAY DUE TO THE INCREASED DEMAND OF ENERGY, YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER INVESTING IN OTHER WATER BODIES, SPREAD IN MOST PARTS OF OUR COUNTRIES, THAT HAVE HIGH POTENTIAL FOR ELECTRICITY GENERATION INCLUDING OTHER SOURCES SUCH AS SOLAR AND COAL-POWERED ELECTRICITY GENERATION. INDEED, OUR TWO COUNTRIES OFFER A WIDE RANGE OF INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THESE AREAS AS WELL.

**DISTINGUISHED LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I WISH YOU FRUITFUL DELIBERATIONS AND I NOW DECLARE THE CONFERENCE OFFICIALLY OPEN.**

**I THANK YOU.**

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