



THE 2019 ANNUAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE 14TH TO 16TH AUGUST 2019

OPENING REMARKS BY THE ZAMBIA INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS (ZICA) PRESIDENT MR. JASON KAZILIMANI JR AT THE 16TH ANNUAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE HELD AT AVANI VICTORIA FALLS RESORTS ON 14TH TO 16TH AUGUST 2019 IN LIVINGSTONE.

OPENING REMARKS BY THE ZAMBIA INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS (ZICA) PRESIDENT MR. JASON KAZILIMANI JR AT THE 13TH ANNUAL BUSINESS CONFERENCE HELD AT AVANI VICTORIA FALLS RESORTS ON 14TH TO 16TH AUGUST 2019 IN LIVINGSTONE.

- **THE MINISTER OF FINANCE, HONOURABLE BWALYA NGANDU MP**
- **THE ZICA PRESIDENT MR JASON KAZILIMANI JR**
- **AICPA VICE PRESIDENT FOR TAXATION MR EDWARD KARL**
- **ZICA COUNCIL MEMBERS**
- **THE ACCA COUNTRY MANAGER MS. JANICE MATWI**
- **THE CIMA COUNTRY MANAGER MR. GORDIAN BOWA**
- **CONFERENCE ORGANISING COMMITTEE**
- **ZICA, ACCA AND CIMA MANAGEMENT AND STAFF**
- **MEMBERS OF THE PRESS**
- **LADIES AND GENTLEMEN**

GOOD MORNING!

Allow me to welcome each one of you to the Annual Business Conference of 2019 whose theme is “**Emerging world order: implications on business, developing countries and global sustainability**”. This is an extremely befitting theme given the current happenings on the global socio-economic landscape. Let me express my most sincere thanks to the organizers for inviting me to deliver a few remarks at this auspicious occasion.

Guest of Honour,

The Minister of Finance, Honourable Bwalya Ngandu MP, on behalf of ZICA, ACCA and CIMA, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate you once again on your appointment as Minister of Finance and we wish you all the success in your new role.

Ladies and Gentlemen

In line with the Conference theme, we share the view that the world is undergoing far-reaching, complex and profound changes, marked by economic globalization, emergence of a new economic super power in Asia China is obviously the biggest story in terms of economic growth in recent decades, and we can all learn something about this success story. China's lifting of four hundred million people out of poverty in the space of three decades is exceptional. There are some similarities between the rise of Africa now as a priority investment destination and that of China three decades ago, when China began opening its economy to global forces. Africa is set to achieve growth levels that will empower its nearly one billion citizens and enable the continent to elevate millions from poverty.

Ladies and Gentlemen

The question that African nations face is; how can we rapidly realize the economic promise of the continent and do so in a way in which hundreds of millions of poor and marginalized people have jobs, move out of poverty, and fulfil their potential?

As we tackle these issues, the emerging world order offers interesting routes for an alternative economic model that ensures job-creating growth and different forms of inclusion and equity. However, the work that we have is to ensure that this development is distinct and tailor made to the country's conditions, strengths and specific needs. The key will lie in unlocking the continent's huge entrepreneurial potential.

Ladies and Gentlemen

The potential of Zambia as an investment destination has long been recognized and supported. In order to survive in this revolving global economic order, Zambia will need to position itself strategically by ensuring that significant strides are made towards democratic governance, transparent economic systems, and elimination of barriers to trade and investment. There is ample evidence of Zambia's potential to leapfrog the current constraints, such as the revolution in the

mobile telephone technology industry and electricity provision that could be the next breakthrough investment. Zambia's hydroelectric potential could play a key role in the provision of electricity for the sub Saharan region.

Distinguished guests

I hope that you find the 2019 conference deliberations eye opening and as we embark on this transformational journey as a country we need to keep abreast with what is happening world over paying special attention to the events in Asia.

Ladies and Gentlemen

With these few remarks, it is now my pleasure and honour to invite the Minister of Finance, Honourable Bwalya Ngandu, MP to address this august house and declare the 2019 Annual Business Conference officially opened.

The Honourable Minister of Finance.