



OPENING REMARKS BY THE ZICA CEO, MR. BONNA KASHINGA DURING THE 14TH GRADUATION CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT ZICA HEADQUARTERS, LUSAKA ON 11TH DECEMBER 2020

The Guest of Honour, the ZiCA President, Ms Cecilia zimba,
Council Members,
Members of the Education & Training Committee,
Distinguished invited guests,
The Management staff of ZICA,
The CA Zambia Graduates,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Good morning!!

It is my pleasure to welcome you all, those who are here physically and those following the procession virtually on Diamond TV and on our Facebook page. A graduation ceremony is always a special occasion that emanates from years of hard work. So, it is only fitting that today we commemorate the journey that we have travelled together these last few years.

We might have encountered some trials and tribulations along the way, including the postponement of the graduation ceremony due to unforeseen circumstances, however we are happy that we have been able to host the graduation ceremony virtually for the first time. The theme for the 14th graduation ceremony, “*Embracing Technology in Developing Resilient Accountants*” is evident that the Institute is resolved to ensuring it provides services such as e-books, electronic examinations and virtual learning platforms. I am happy to mention that we have concluded the production of the examination technique videos which will be uploaded on the student portal for those of you wish to pursue further studies.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Henry Ford wisely said, "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress and working together is success." As we look back over the last years, you have gained new knowledge and skills that you can now take into the world. We hope that you remain part of

the ZICA community as alumni, as students or as ambassadors on the CA Zambia programme for those wishing to progress.

I wish to offer words of advice to all graduating students on matters of ethical conduct which is to our heart as a professional body. Ethical behaviour is a critical characteristic we all need to exhibit in order to excel in the accountancy profession. Some of you are in critical positions, I therefore, urge you to adhere ethical guidelines as provided for in the Code of Conduct for professional accountants. Always endeavour to do what is right even when others are not doing it put public interest first before self-interest.

Guest of Honour,

At this ceremony, you will be awarding certificates to Five Hundred and Two (502) graduands from the June 2019 examination session. Of the 502, Four Hundred and Forty Nine (449) are graduating from the Diploma in Accountancy Programme, Sixteen (16) from the Certificate in Taxation, Twelve (12) from the Diploma in Taxation, Six (6) from the Diploma in Public Sector Financial Management, and Nineteen (19) from CA Zambia.

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

As I conclude my welcome remarks, allow me on behalf of the Institute to thank the following organisations for supporting the best performing graduands at this ceremony. These are Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA), ZABMAC, KPMG, STANBIC, PWC, Grant Thornton, and Mark Daniels.

Your unwavering support to the Institute and the graduates will go a long way in motivating the graduates as they venture into another phase of life which is the world of work.

Graduands

Invited Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

It is now my privilege to invite the guest of honour and President of ZICA to deliver his speech.

Madam Guest of honour,