



**COMMUNIQUE ON THE JOINT GRZ-CSO
NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

**Theme: Dialogue for the Zambia We Want
Towards Vision 2030**

11-12 August 2015

Radisson Blue Hotel, Lusaka

The Government of the Republic of Zambia and the Civil Society Organizations met at the National Symposium on Sustainable Development from 11th to 12th August 2015 at Radisson Blue Hotel in Lusaka with the objective to strengthen stakeholder involvement in delivering national development and to develop a common understanding on the national development agenda towards Vision 2030.

The Symposium deliberated and:

- a) **RECOGNISED** that though so much progress had been achieved on the economic agenda, the gains had not translated into poverty reduction especially in the rural areas where the majority poor reside.
- b) **RECOGNISED** that development issues such as Gender, Disability, WASH, Youth, HIV/AIDS, Environment, and Nutrition needed to take prominence in National Development planning for successful development outcomes towards attaining Vision 2030 and there is also need to strategically plan on environmental issues and coordinate climate change mitigation activities.
- c) **NOTED** the significance to strengthen coordination of national development across and among all stakeholders and implementing entities. Therefore, it was resolved to develop a coordinated and comprehensive framework.
- d) **REITERATED** the need to move from raw agricultural based economy to an industrial one by way of promoting value addition especially in the agricultural sector in order to create employment and fight poverty.
- e) **REITERATED** the need to re-organize the institutional arrangements and legal frameworks for the achievement of equitable and sustainable development objectives.
- f) **IDENTIFIED** the need to shift from a sectorial-approach of planning to a multi-sectorial approach with a regional development bias for effective and efficient development planning delivery.
- g) **RECOGNISED** the need to re-engineer the education system to allow for innovation tapping, sport facilitation for national development,

holistic career guidance provision, revamp youth development centers in communities, improved access to education services for the vulnerable, and improvement on skills development that is responsive to the general industry needs.

- h) ADOPTED**, as a way forward, to involve the youth, in future planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national development programmes and projects.
- i) UNDERSCORED** the importance of collaboration in investing in data collection and analysis to ensure informed and thus comprehensive development planning by all stakeholders.
- j) COMMITTED** themselves to play their respective roles in order to ensure that planned reforms such as decentralization are implemented as a catalyst of speeding national development.
- k) COMMITED** to be providing leadership by all individuals and institutions in terms of accountability and information sharing in development initiatives.
- l) RESOLVED** there is need to further improve the macroeconomic indicators and ensure they translate into improved social outcomes as well as tie the foreign direct investment to domestic investment as a way of reducing the externalization of resources from the country.
- m) RESOLVED** that there was need to do a SWOT analysis on the Zambian people which would then inform the change of Mind Set programme aimed at positively changing our attitudes to national development initiatives and fully appreciate the Vision 2030 of becoming a prosperous middle income country. The analysis would provide data needed for critical thinking for the purpose of addressing the social challenges that we face as a country.
- n) RESOLVED** to undertake similar indabas at provincial level for inclusiveness and to enrich national character by giving voice to the voiceless in the national development process.