

REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA



**CLOSING REMARKS AND CALL FOR ACTION BY THE
PERMANENT SECRETARY OF COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE**

DR. DAVY CHIKAMATA

**FOR THE NATIONAL CHILDCARE REFORM
CONSULTATIVE FORUM**

FRIDAY 6TH MAY 2016

AT RADISSON BLU HOTEL - LUSAKA

REPRESENTATIVES FROM GHR FOUNDATION,
THE UNICEF COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE,
THE COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE- USAID,
THE COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE SAVE THE CHILDREN,
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BETTER CARE NETWORK,
REPRESENTATIVES FOR GLOBAL SOCIAL SERVICE WORKFORCE
ALLIANCE,
REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DISPLACED CHILDREN AND
ORPHANS FUND (DCOF),
THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR CMMB,
THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR BETHANY CHRISTIAN GLOBAL
SERVICES,
THE CHIEF OF PARTY – ZAMBIA RISING,
COOPERATING PARTNERS,
SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS PRESENT,
REPRESENTATIVES OF CHILDCARE INSTITUTIONS,
INVITED GUESTS,
MEMBERS OF THE PRESS,
MAY I SIMPLY SAY LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

MY TASK TODAY IS A SIMPLE BUT SERIOUS ONE BECAUSE IT PUSHES FORWARD OUR AGENDA ON “**ACCELERATING THE NATIONAL CHILDCARE REFORM PROCESS**”.

I AM WELL INFORMED THAT YOU HAVE HAD EXCITING AND FRUITFUL DELIBERATIONS FOR THE PAST THREE DAYS AND THAT YOU ARE ALL EXCITED AND MOTIVATED TO DRIVE OUR AGENDA FORWARD.

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK ALL OUR COOPERATING PARTNERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT IN ENSURING THAT WE PUSH FORWARD THE AGENDA OF CHILDREN’S CARE REFORM IN ZAMBIA. SPECIAL THANKS GOES TO GHR FOUNDATION, BETTER CARE NETWORK, THE GLOBAL SOCIAL SERVICE WORKFORCE ALLIANCE, AND DISPLACED CHILDREN AND ORPHANS FUND WHOSE REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN PART OF THIS FORUM.

THE MINISTRY WILL FOREVER REMAIN INDEBTED TO OUR ALL-WEATHER PARTNERS UNICEF, CMMB, CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES, BETHANY CHRISTIAN GLOBAL SERVICES AND SAVE THE CHILDREN INTERNATIONAL WHO ARE ALL PART OF THE CHILDREN IN FAMILIES TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK REPRESENTATIVES FROM CHILD CARE FACILITIES WHO ARE LOOKING AFTER THE CHILDREN

AND ARE A BIG COMPONENT OF OUR CHILD CARE REFORM PROCESS. I WOULD BE FAILING IN MY DUTIES IF I DID NOT THANK ALL INVITED GUESTS FOR THEIR PRESENCE AND PARTICIPATION; YOU ALL HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN OUR CARE REFORM. TO MY OFFICERS IN THE MINISTRY WE NEED TO HIT THE GROUND RUNNING AND ENSURE THAT ALL OUR CHILDREN ARE BETTER PROTECTED WITHIN THE FAMILY ENVIRONMENT.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH EVERYONE FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK. I WOULD NOW LIKE TO READ OUR “CALL TO ACTION” BORN FROM THIS FORUM.