



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND INTERNAL SECURITY

**SPEECH BY HON. JACK J. MWIIMBU, MP
MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND INTERNAL SECURITY**

**AT THE LAUNCH NATIONAL MIGRATION POLICY AND THE
NATIONAL POLICY ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND
SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS**

DATE: 2ND DECEMBER, 2022

VENUE: NEELKANTH SAROVAR PREMIERE

TIME: 13:20 – 16:00 HOURS

LUSAKA

**THE PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
AND INTERNAL SECURITY – MR. DICKSON MATEMBO**

PERMANENT SECRETARIES PRESENT

**THE UN RESIDENT COORDINATOR IN ZAMBIA – MS.
BEATRICE MUTALI**

HEADS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS

UN HEADS OF AGENCIES

SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS PRESENT

REPRESENTATIVES OF ACADEMIA

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS PRESENT

REPRESENTATIVES OF MIGRANT ASSOCIATIONS

**MEMBERS OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON THE
MIGRATION POLICY**

**MEMBERS OF THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING POLICY**

COLLEAGUES FROM THE MEDIA

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA AND INDEED ON MY OWN BEHALF, I AM PLEASED THAT TODAY WE ARE LAUNCHING THE TWO POLICIES THAT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO STRENGTHENING THE MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE OF MIGRATION IN ZAMBIA. IT IS A GREAT HONOUR AND PRIVILEGE FOR ME TO HAVE A CHANCE TO LAUNCH THE FIRST EVER NATIONAL MIGRATION POLICY IN ZAMBIA AND THE REVISED NATIONAL POLICY ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS.

DISTINGUISHED LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

MIGRATION HAS BECOME TOPICAL AT THE GLOBAL, CONTINENTAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS DUE TO ITS SCOPE, SCALE AND COMPLEXITY. TODAY, MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ARE LIVING IN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THEIR COUNTRY OF BIRTH, WITH DREAMS AND ASPIRATIONS FOR OVERCOMING THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES THEY FACE IN THEIR COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN. THE NEW DAWN ADMINISTRATION HAS ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE CALL FOR RESPONSIBLE AND WELL-MANAGED MIGRATION POLICIES, AS ESPOUSED IN THE **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG-10.7)**. THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISES THAT WHEN MIGRATION IS WELL-MANAGED, BENEFITS TO THE COUNTRY ACCRUE WHICH INCLUDE; PRODUCTIVE LABOUR MIGRANTS FILLING THE SKILLS GAP IN THE LABOUR MARKET, ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY, MIGRANT REMITTANCES, DIASPORA INVESTMENTS, WEALTH AND SKILLS TRANSFER, AS WELL AS CULTURAL DIVERSITY.

GOVERNMENT IS ALSO ALIVE TO THE FACT THAT IF MIGRATION IS NOT WELL MANAGED, IT CAN CREATE INSECURITY, SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING, SOCIAL UNREST AND DISCRIMINATION. IT IS AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND THAT GOVERNMENT PRIORITISED THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TWO POLICIES WE ARE LAUNCHING TODAY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

MIGRATION IS A REALITY THAT CAN NEITHER BE PREVENTED NOR IGNORED. IT HAPPENS VOLUNTARILY OR INVOLUNTARILY AND IS TRIGGERED BY MAN-MADE OR NATURAL CAUSES. SOME PEOPLE MOVE IN SEARCH OF EMPLOYMENT AND BETTER LIFE PROSPECTS; SOME IN THE WAKE OF NATURAL OR HUMAN-MADE DISASTER; OTHERS IN RESPONSE TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE OR FROM HARSH LIVING CONDITIONS. THE MOTIVATION TO MIGRATE IS FUELLED BY A COMBINATION OF SEVERAL PULL AND PUSH FACTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

AS WE HEARD IN THE PRESENTATIONS, EVEN BEFORE THE IMPLEMENTATION PHASE HAS STARTED, THE NATIONAL MIGRATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES HAVE RESULTED IN THE FOLLOWING: FIRSTLY, STAKEHOLDERS CAN IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS EQUAL PLAYERS IN MIGRATION MANAGEMENT AND HAVE DEMONSTRATED GREAT APPRECIATION OF THE CROSS-CUTTING NATURE OF MIGRATION ISSUES THROUGH A WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT

AND WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY APPROACH. SECONDLY, STAKEHOLDERS ARE DEMONSTRATING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPORTANCE OF DISAGGREGATED AND QUALITY MIGRATION DATA FOR EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY FORMULATION.

THE POLICY FORMULATION PROCESS HAS ALSO INSPIRED THE GOVERNMENT TO SEE THE NEED TO REVIEW AND DEVELOP OTHER MIGRATION RELATED SECTOR-SPECIFIC POLICIES, LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORKS AND STRATEGIES. FOR INSTANCE, THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN A DECISION TO REVIEW THE ANTI-TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK AS WELL AS FORMULATING A LABOUR MIGRATION STRATEGY, ALL OF WHICH WILL HAVE A DIRECT IMPACT ON MIGRANTS' RIGHTS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

THE TWO POLICIES HAVE SET A STRONG TONE TOWARDS MIGRATION MANAGEMENT IN ZAMBIA. THE NATIONAL MIGRATION POLICY IS AN OVERARCHING POLICY SPEAKING TO BROAD AREAS OF MIGRATION MANAGEMENT INCLUDING; MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT, FACILITATING MIGRATION, REGULATING MIGRATION, AND FORCED MIGRATION, WHEREAS, THE NATIONAL POLICY ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS TAKES A DEDICATED FOCUS ON CURBING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS FOLLOWING INCREASED PREVALENCE IN THE REGION AND GLOBALLY.

DISTINGUISHED LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

WE CANNOT OVEREMPHASIZE THAT ZAMBIA IS A SOURCE, TRANSIT AND DESTINATION POINT FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS, AND LIKE MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, IS AFFECTED BY THESE CRIMES. THEREFORE, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICIES WILL GREATLY HELP IN MITIGATING THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF MIGRATION.

DISTINGUISHED LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

IN CONCLUSION, I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT FROM THE VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS. I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEES ON DEVELOPING THE TWO POLICIES WE ARE LAUNCHING TODAY.

THE LAUNCH OF THE TWO POLICIES IS JUST, BUT THE BEGINNING OF THE JOURNEY TO ACTION. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT I URGE VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS TO SINGULARLY AND COLLECTIVELY ENSURE A SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICIES.

IT IS NOW MY SINGULAR HONOUR AND PRIVILEGE TO OFFICIALLY LAUNCH THE NATIONAL MIGRATION POLICY AND THE NATIONAL POLICY ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING OF MIGRANTS.

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION AND MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL.