



ZIMBABWE

KEY NOTE ADDRESS

BY

MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

HON DR. SITHEMBISO G. G. NYONI

AT

THE STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

ZITF, BULAWAYO

22 NOVEMBER 2023

Director of Ceremonies;

**The Minister of State for Provincial Affairs and Devolution
for Bulawayo, Hon Judith Ncube;**

**Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce, Hon Roy
Bhila;**

**Secretary for Industry and Commerce, Dr. Thomas Utete
Wushe;**

Senior Government Officials, here present;

**Representatives from the Office of the President and
Cabinet;**

Representatives from the Public Service Commission

Heads and Chairs of Parastatals;

Workshop Facilitators;

Captains of Industry and Commerce;

Members of Staff;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

I am delighted to address you this morning at this Strategic Planning Workshop, here in the City of Bulawayo. The workshop represents a significant step forward in our efforts to better align our inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes and impact with the needs of our economy. This is an important workshop as it will determine what we do in fulfilment of the mandate given to us by His Excellency, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Dr. E. D. Mnangagwa. We have convened this session to recalibrate our plans and ensure alignment with our mandate.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We must be able to take pride on the successes that we have achieved in the past years. Equally we must truthfully reflect on the failures that we had. Our interaction at this workshop must reflect our commitment to meet the expectations of the people of Zimbabwe whose hopes and aspirations for the industrialisation agenda resides in this Ministry.

Furthermore, it is during this strategic planning session where we are supposed to make sure that we come up with solid strategies that will see improved industrial and commercial sector performance. All the staff members have a full responsibility of

ensuring that there is perfection in the manner in which they are carrying out their daily duties. Our individual performance must speak directly to our service delivery drive. Our clients must feel the positive impact of the work we are doing.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is important for us to appreciate that our task is to implement the National Development Strategy (NDS1), 2021 – 2025. Our performance plans must therefore give life to the outcomes we have been tasked to deliver on under the NDS1. In line with the NDS1, the Ministry is spearheading the pillar on ***"Moving the Economy up the Value Chains and Structural Transformation"***. Key under this pillar is value addition and beneficiation of agriculture and mining products, where the thrust is to develop and strengthen already existing value chains.

Pursuant to the National Vision for the country to become a "Prosperous and Empowered Upper Middle-Income Society by 2030", the Ministry is expected to boost productivity, competitiveness and efficiency levels in both industrial and commercial sectors, and be a major source of decent jobs.

In this regard, we have to make strides in supporting our industry through effective policy interventions. If we are to make a telling difference, we cannot continue applying the same methods in solving old problems. This calls for a paradigm shift in addressing industry challenges.

We are coming close the end of the Zimbabwe National Industrial Development Policy (ZNIDP) 2019 – 2023 and consultations on the ZNIDP 2024 – 2030 are at an advanced stage.

A number of pro-growth sectorial policies and strategies have been put in place in recent years, namely Local Content Strategy, Zimbabwe Motor Industry Development Policy, Zimbabwe Pharmaceutical Sector Strategy, Zimbabwe Leather Sector Strategy, among others. These policies and strategies aimed to focus more clearly on strategic value chains, above all by promoting localization of the means of production to ensure that our people benefit directly from the industrialisation process.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

We must similarly give particular focus on critical tasks that we need to be given traction. It is my expectation that this workshop

must incisively consider aligning deliverables towards the realization of the agreed outcomes. Our Strategic Plans and Annual Performance Plans must reflect the sustained industrial and commercial sectors development agenda based on our mandate. Departmental Annual Performance Plans must be mutually reinforcing and effectively eliminate the silo mentality.

The realisation of the country's industrialisation programme must find practical expression in our plans and our work on the ground. Taken together, our plans should seek to deepen the domestic market by growing employment, increasing incomes and undertaking other measures to widen the market for Zimbabwean goods and services through a stronger focus on exports to the region and other rapidly growing economies.

Ladies and Gentleman; at the Government High Level Retreat held at Rainbow Towers Hotel in Harare on the 14th of September 2023, the President, His Excellency, Dr. E. D. Mnangagwa, underscored the need to implement bold policies to achieve impactful results. He went on and said that, **"It is essential that the public sector now shifts from reporting on**

activities and tasks, to reporting on results, outputs and outcomes”.

In this regard, Ladies and Gentleman, lets ensure that our Key Performance Indicators are linked clearly to the aims of our industrial policies and strategies as well as our mandate, in order for us to produce the desired results.

Ladies and Gentlemen; In conclusion, as we start this strategic planning session, let us approach it with an open mind, fully trusting that we will come out of here stronger and wiser.

A scholar once wrote, “Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality.” That is the job before us now. We must translate the Ministry’s vision into lived reality.

With these few remarks, **Ladies and Gentleman**, I declare the workshop officially opened.

I thank you!