

**MINISTER'S REMARKS ON THE  
OCCASION OF THE SIGNING OF THE  
ZIMBABWE DECENT WORK COUNTRY  
PROGRAMME FOR 2012-2015, MONDAY 22 OCTOBER 2012  
12<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR BOARDROOM COMPENSATION HOUSE**

- Director of Ceremony and Secretary for Labour and Social Services, Mr. L.C. Museka
- Colleague Ministers here present
- President of the Employers' Confederation of Zimbabwe, Mr. A.Mandiwanzira
- President of the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions, Mr. G. Nkiwane
- Director of the ILO Country Office for Harare, Mr. Alphonse Tabi-Abodo
- Members of the Zimbabwe Decent Work Country Programme National Steering Committee
- Senior government Officials here present
- Ladies and Gentlemen

I am indeed delighted to give a few remarks on this momentous and historic occasion as we gather to put pen to paper on our national Decent Work Country Programme for the period 2012-2015. As we sit here today with a sense of accomplishment of having successfully developed our Decent Work Country Programme, it is my sincere hope that each of us realises that the real work has only begun. I say this because many of our men, women and youth expect from us, and should have prospects for a brighter tomorrow filled with the promise and hope for full, decent, product and freely chosen employment.

As we move to implement the third generation of our DWCP, I am encouraged by the commitment and resolute determination from both social partners, and the undying support of the ILO. I therefore wish to pledge government's commitment to the full implementation of the DWCP. This document is a product of lengthy discussions serious negotiation and tireless effort by the National Steering Committee and should be embraced and taken seriously by all relevant stakeholders.

Master of Ceremony the document before us provides a framework for continued cooperation between the ILO and the people of Zimbabwe. Having begun the journey towards realising the decent work goal in 2005, Zimbabwe continues on that path and I wish to pledge Government's commitment to the full implementation of this programme. Indeed, we will spare no effort in ensuring that we achieve the decent work goal in Zimbabwe.

I wish to further congratulate the National Steering Committee for having identified priorities for the coming cycle which is in line with other development frameworks, and which address the current challenges that we face as a nation. I note with satisfaction that high on the implementation agenda of this decent work programme is the need to promote productive employment and decent jobs through active labour market policies and programmes.

Indeed, it is important for Government and the social partners to collaborate in prioritising this objective. I say this because in cognisance of the specific role that each of us is expected to play. As a tripartite force, we can achieve the decent work goal.

In closing, I wish to once again reiterate Government's appreciation to the ILO in supporting our initiatives for decent work in Zimbabwe. I also wish to applaud the National Steering Committee for its commitment to the development of the DWCP and urge them to work towards its full implementation.

I thank you.