



Republic of Zambia

SPEECH BY

**HIS EXCELLENCY MR. EDGAR CHAGWA LUNGU
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA,**

**ON THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF URBAN BLISS HOTEL –
KABWE**

ON FRIDAY, 5TH JULY, 2019

**STATE HOUSE
LUSAKA**

- **HONOURABLE PROVINCIAL MINISTER FOR CENTRAL PROVINCE;**
- **ALL CABINET MINISTERS PRESENT;**
- **YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESSES PRESENT;**
- **YOUR WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF KABWE, MR. PRINCE CHILESHE;**
- **THE CLERGY;**
- **MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCIAL JOINT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE;**
- **THE DIRECTOR AND MANAGEMENT OF URBAN BLISS HOTEL;**
- **THE PRESIDENT OF KABWE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE;**
- **THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY;**
- **SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS PRESENT;**
- **MEMBERS OF THE PRESS;**
- **DISTINGUISHED LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:**

I AM GRATIFIED TO BE HERE TODAY TO GRACE THE GRAND OPENING OF URBAN BLISS HOTEL HERE IN KABWE, CENTRAL PROVINCE.

THE URBAN BLISS HOTEL IS THE FIRST EVER FIVE-STAR HOTEL IN KABWE. THIS DEVELOPMENT IS A CONFIRMATION OF A BRIGHT FUTURE WHICH LIES AHEAD OF KABWE IN PARTICULAR AND CENTRAL PROVINCE AS A WHOLE.

THIS DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE A TRIGGER TO MORE ECONOMIC PROSPECTS TO KABWE IN PARTICULAR AND CENTRAL PROVINCE AS A WHOLE.

ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND INDEED ON MY OWN BEHALF, I WISH TO COMMEND THE INVESTOR THE **PRYA DIE HERE** (PDH) FOUNDATION, A CHRISTIAN ORGANISATION FOR THIS VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY HERE IN ZAMBIA.

THIS FACILITY WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE SKILLS OF BUILDERS, ENGINEERS, ARCHITECTS AND ALL THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED ACTIVELY IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS MODERN STRUCTURE, SO EQUALLY, I SAY WELL DONE.

I AM CONFIDENT THAT URBAN BLISS HOTEL HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE OUTLOOK OF THE DISTRICT WITH ITS MODERN ACCESSORIES WHICH MEET INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS. IT IS ALSO HOPED THAT THE HOTEL WILL HELP SPUR GROWTH IN THE SERVICE SECTOR.

IN AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE HOSPITALITY SECTOR IN THE PROVINCE, I HAVE BEEN MADE TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE HOTEL HAS ALSO GONE AN EXTRA MILE TO TRANSFORM THE LIVES OF INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES AND THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE HERE IN KABWE.

I AM HAPPY TO NOTE THAT FOR THE PAST THREE AND HALF YEARS, ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY (180) MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY HAVE BEEN OFFERED VARIOUS JOBS IN ADDITION TO BEING DISCIPLED AND MENTORED.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

TO ATTRACT INVESTMENT IN THE TOURISM SECTOR, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT GOVERNMENT HAS CREATED AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT WHICH HAS ENABLED LOCAL AND FOREIGN INVESTORS TO CONSTRUCT A SERIES OF HOTELS AND LODGES IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, SOME OF WHICH ARE ALREADY OPERATIONAL.

THIS IS IN FULFILLMENT OF OUR QUEST TO DIVERSIFY THE ECONOMY AS ONE OF THE STRATEGIC FOCUS IN THE SEVENTH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THIS FACILITY HAS A SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE ON THE PEOPLE OF KABWE BECAUSE OF ITS ABILITY TO CREATE JOBS.

I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THE HOTEL INTENDS TO EMPLOY MORE THAN EIGHTY PERMANENT WORKERS. IT IS ENCOURAGING TO NOTE THAT THE HOTEL IS COMPLEMENTING GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON JOB CREATION.

MY GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO DEVISE NECESSARY AND CONDUCTIVE CONDITIONS FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO FLOURISH IN OUR EFFORT TO DEVELOP KABWE AND INDEED THE NATION AS A WHOLE. WE WILL CONTINUE ON THIS TRAJECTORY TO PASS ON A PROSPEROUS AND WELL-ADVANCED NATION TO THE FUTURE GENERATIONS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

THE BEAUTY OF OUR STRUCTURES, TOWNS, CITIES AND INDEED OUR GREEN AREAS, CAN ONLY BE SUSTAINED WHEN ALL OF US TAKE KEEN INTEREST IN MAINTAINING THEM BY AVOIDING VANDALISM AND CARELESS DUMPING OF LITTER.

I WISH TO SOUND THIS CALL TO ALL OF US TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF OUR FACILITIES AND ENVIRONMENT TO ENSURE BEAUTY AND CLEANLINESS, AND I NOTICE URBAN BLISS HOTEL IS DOING SIMPLY THAT.

AS I END I WISH TO COMMEND MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF URBAN BLISS HOTEL FOR THIS INVESTMENT.

I AM HOPEFUL THAT OTHER INVESTORS WILL EMULATE PDH TO INVEST IN KABWE IN PARTICULAR AND ZAMBIA AS A WHOLE.

IT IS NOW MY SINGULAR HONOUR AND PRIVILEGE TO DECLARE URBAN BLISS HOTEL, OFFICIALLY OPEN.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL,

I THANK YOU.