



**Republic of Zambia**

**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

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**REMARKS BY THE PERMANENT SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY OF  
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS ENG. MISHECK LUNGU AT THE  
OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORT POLICY MEDIA  
DISSEMINATION WORK SHOP**

**MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2020**

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**MIKA CONVENTION CENTRE**

- The Directors from the Ministry of Transport and Communications (MTC)
- Directors from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Services (MIBS)
- Other Senior Government Officials present
- All media persons present
- Ladies and gentlemen

### **Good morning All**

I wish to officially welcome you to the National Transport Policy (NTP) Media Dissemination workshop that will commence today, Monday 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2020. Thank you for taking time off your busy schedules to participate in this workshop. I am aware that different media houses and persons have travelled from various provinces to participate in this workshop and the Ministry is grateful for your attendance.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The 2019-2029 National Transport Policy (NTP) and its Implementation Plan that will be disseminated to you today was officially launched by the Minister of Transport and Communications, Hon. Mutotwe Kafwaya, on 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2019. The main aim of the policy is to enhance the facilitatory role of the transport sector in social and economic development of the public and private sectors.

The Government of Zambia under the leadership of His Excellency, Dr Edgar Chagwa Lungu, President of the Republic is cognisant of the fact that transport infrastructure and Services are essential drivers of competitiveness and are critical for the effective functioning of any economy. Transport contributes substantially to the broader national development objectives as regards economic development. Therefore, Government's resolve is to develop Zambia's transport sector into an efficient and effective subsector. However, we recognise that the sector still faces numerous challenges such as poor infrastructure and services causing the sector not to operate with the required efficiency.

To address this, the Government embarked on the revision of the 2002 National Transport Policy in order to set the tone for improved transport systems and mitigate impacts of emerging challenges in the transport sector by providing improved transport infrastructure and services across all modes of transport as well as integrate transport systems. The revision of the 2002 National Transport Policy culminated into the development of the revised 2019-2029 National Transport Policy

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

The Vision for the 2019 National Transport Policy is and I quote: "***To have an efficient and integrated Transport System in Zambia by 2029.***" This vision speaks to resolving the challenges that have for a long time inhibited the growth of the transport sector over the years and maximize benefits to the Zambian people that come with improved infrastructure and services.

The thrust of the transport policy is to create an intermodal transport system which will provide for linkages among the four modes of transport.

Thus the implementation of the National Transport Policy will enhance multi-sectorial national economic growth and improved livelihoods of our Zambian population by improving accessibility to markets for goods and services whilst reducing the trading costs.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

The Ministry of Transport and Communications scheduled dissemination of the revised National Transport Policy in two phases, the first phase was the dissemination of the Policy at provincial and district level. Phase two is the dissemination of the Policy to media houses which activity we are undertaking today. Through the effective collaboration of the Ministry of Transport and Communications and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, we resolved to engage media institutions to disseminate the policy on our behalf in order to ensure wider stakeholder and public sensitization on the contents of the policy and its implementation plan.

As the Ministry of Transport and Communications, we strongly believe that through the media, sufficient information about the transport sector and its policies can be appropriately provided in an accessible and culturally appropriate manner. Thus, your efficient and effective dissemination of the National Transport Policy will enable the people of Zambia positively contribute to the successful implementation of the National Transport Policy.

Consequently, the dissemination that you will be conducting after this workshop will give an opportunity to various stakeholders in the transport sector and the public at large to examine the policies and measures contained in the policy and determine whether these policies are contributing to making the transport sector efficient and effective.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

I have been reliably informed that you will also be gathering success stories on the transport sector that will be aired at an appropriate time. For us, this will be an efficient source for transmitting useful information about the transport sector to implementing agencies as well as the general public. Let me reiterate that you are powerful driving forces of modern society as you are not just a source of information for the general public, but also a potential vehicle for educating the public, a vital service especially when it comes to transport related issues.

I believe that no matter who we are, information gives us more power because the more we know, the more we can effect change both on a personal and societal level. One way we acquire this knowledge is through you, the media, who are mandated to disseminate information to targeted audience, thereby empowering them.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

Let me assure you that my ministry is ready to receive both positive and negative feedback on the National Transport Policy. I believe that is the only way we can change what is not working. So please share with us your experiences during the dissemination of the Transport Policy.

## **Ladies and Gentlemen**

In conclusion, I would like to commend my counterpart, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Services for his unwavering support in making this important activity successful.

With these few remarks, I now declare this workshop officially open. I wish you fruitful deliberations

**I thank you**