

CLOSING REMARKS

BY THE PERMANENT SECRETARY

FOR PUBLIC SERVICE, LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE,

MR SIMON MASANGA

**AT THE ROLLOUT OF THE ZIMBABWE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
1(NDS1)-**

INTEGRATING THE 2030 AGENDA WORKSHOP

The United Nations Resident Co-Ordinator Ad Interim, Dr Alex Gasasira,

Chief Director, Mr Chiraya,

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Representatives, Dr Amson Sibanda Chief National Strategies and
Capacity Building Branch, Ms Carol Pollack –Senior Inter Regional
Advisor

All Senior Government Officials Here Present,

United Nations Representatives,

Representatives from NGOS and Civil Society Organisations,

Distinguished Participants

Ladies and Gentlemen

1. On behalf of the organisers of this workshop, it is indeed my
pleasure to express gratitude to all of you for having participated

in this 5-day workshop and also contributing to making it a success. I am certain that, the enriching and stimulating discussions we had over these past 5 days will translate into actionable plans leading to the acceleration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 as we implement our National Development Strategy 1.

2. This workshop has both enlightened and provided us with feasible options and strategies as we strive towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
3. This meeting in my view is a key milestone towards enabling an integrated approach to national development in our country as the NDS1 and SDG programmes are aligned.
4. I am convinced that it is now clear that we can all contribute towards the achievement of NDS1 making use of both global and continental agendas.
5. It becomes imperative that we build coherence, as well as vertical and horizontal co-ordination mechanisms for the attainment of our national goals.

6. In order to bridge the finance gap it is necessary to continuously explore non-traditional funding options and establish effective partnerships to finance sustainable development. Let's create synergies with all stakeholders.
7. Ladies and gentlemen this meeting has empowered us with relevant knowledge and the necessary tools we can consider to possibly overcome some of the challenges we are encountering as a country. The lessons learnt and best practices from other countries have awakened us to the realization that we need to view the challenges we are facing as opportunities for improvement that should be utilized to strengthen cooperation for the achievement of the National Development Strategy and the global agenda for sustainable development. Lessons from other countries have presented new perspectives which we as government should situate within our context and consider for adoption or further refinement and implementing.
8. I am excited of the opportunity presented to us by UNDESA on undertaking a knowledge sharing exchange on the alignment of

National Development Plans and the 2030 Agenda. This will go a long way in ensuring continuous improvement in our planning process as we strive towards the achievement of Vision 2030.

9. It is my sincere hope that the recommendations we have adopted will enable us to align our limited resources and actions towards a common goal of achieving the NDS1, SDGS and Vision 2030.

10. The greatest key is all stakeholders taking ownership of the process.

11. I am optimistic that together we will win.

12. I wish to sincerely thank UNDESA for their financial and technical support and I believe our partnership will be strengthened going forward.

13. Let me also thank all facilitators who participated virtually including the home grown ones.

14. It was gratifying for me seeing young man and women taking the difficult challenge of delivering sessions. Keep it up.

15. The insights thrown to us by Prof Admos Chimhowu and Dr Dhliwayo, Dr Sibanda, and others will be taken on board. In particular, the utilization of the diaspora and the academia will be followed up.
16. The teamwork exhibited can only be encouraged going forward.
17. Once again, thank you all.