



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

SPEECH BY

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ON

**“RECEIPT OF THE GORGE KOSTEN VOCATIONAL AND AGRICULTURE
COLLEGE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE”**

22ND APRIL, 2021

- THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES CHIEFTAINNESS LESA AND MALEMBEKA
- THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER
- THE FOUNDER, MRS. TON KOSTEN-KORENROMP AND YOUR ENTOURAGE
- THE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN
- THE COUNCIL SECRETARY
- THE DIRECTOR-HUMAN RESOURCE AND ADMINISTRATION
- THE PRINCIPAL ZAMBIA COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE-MONZE
- HEADS OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS
- COLLEGE MEMBERS OF STAFF
- STUDENTS
- DISTINGUISHED INVITED GUESTS
- **LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,**

I THANK YOU FOR COMING TO THIS IMPORTANT EVENT, WHERE THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE IS RECEIVING THE GORGE KOSTERN VOCATIONAL TRAINING COLLEGE, WHICH HAS ALREADY ENROLLED OVER 60 STUDENTS FOR THE 2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR. THIS MEANS GKVTC BECOMES NEWEST AND 7TH AGRICULTURE COLLEGE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE.

DISTIGUISHED INVITED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMENT,

ONE BEHALF OF GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF MPONGWE IN PARTICULAR, I WISH TO SINCERELY THANK MS TON FOR THIS LIFE LONG GIFT TO THE PEOPLE OF MPONGWE, THE SURROUNDING AREA AND THE NATION AS A WHOLE.

MS TON, MADAM,

THIS GIFT YOU HAVE GIVEN TO THE PEOPLE OF ZAMBIA GOES TO SHOW THE ATTACHEMENT, IMPORTANCE AND MOST IMPORTANTLY THE LOVE AND CARE YOU HAVE FOR THE YOUTH OF MPONGWE. I ASSURE YOU THAT THE GKVTC UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE WILL CONTINUE TO EMPOWER THE YOUTHS OF MPONGWE, THE COPPERBELT AND THE NATION AT LARGE WITH SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE THROUGH AGRICULTURAL TRAINING.

DISTINGUISHED LADIES AND GENTLEMENT,

I AM EQUALLY INFORMED THAT UNDER THE GIVE THE CHILDREN OF MPONGWE A FUTURE (GCMF) GUEST HOUSE YOU ARE RUNNING AN OPHANE AND VULNERABLE CHILDEREN (OVC) PROGRAMME FOR THE CHILDREN OF MPONGWE FROM PRIMARY TO SECONDARY SCHOOL. YOU ARE CURRENTLY SUPPORTING A TOTAL OF 75 ORPHANED AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN, THIS IS COMMENDABLE AND AS GOVERNMENT WE APPRECIATE THE SUPPORT THAT YOU ARE RENDERING TO THESE CHILDREN.

DISTINGUSHED LADIES AND GENTLEMEN;

YOU MAY WISH TO KNOW THAT HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA DR. EDGAR CHAGWA LUNGU HAS PLACED EMPHASIS

ON AGRICULTURE AS ONE OF THE MAJOR DRIVERS OF THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY. THEREFORE, THE IMPORTANCE OF SKILLED AND COMPETENT AGRICULTURE EXTENSION WORKERS CAN NOT BE OVER EMPHASISED IN AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION AND PRODUCTIVITY AS A MEANS TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY ESPECIALLY IN RURAL AND PERI URBAN AREAS. GRADUATES FROM OUR COLLEGES SHOULD EQUALLY BECOME SELF EMPLOYED AND VENTURE INTO AGRICULTURE AS A BUSINESS, THEREBY CONTRIBUTING TO THE GROWTH OF OUR ECONOMY.

THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER,

ALLOW ME TO ADDRESS YOU AND THE PEOPLE OF MPONGWE. THIS INSTITUTION BEING HANDED TO GOVERNMENT TODAY, PRIMARILY BELONGS TO YOU THE PEOPLE OF MPONGWE. KINDLY TREASURE IT AND GUARD IT JEALOUSLY, OUR CHILDREN NOW HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE TERTIARY EDUCATION THROUGH A LOCAL AGRICULTURAL TRAINING COLLEGE. AS PEOPLE OF MPONGWE, WE NOW HAVE OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT THROUGH THIS INSTITUTION. BUSINESS HOUSES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS ALSO STAND TO PARTNER WITH THIS INSTITUTION.

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, CHIEFS AND LOCAL LEADERSHIP,

THIS INSTITUTION IS YOURS TO CHERISH AND SAFEGUARD JEALOUSLY. PARENTS AND GUARDIANS PRESENT HERE, THIS COLLEGE WILL BENEFIT YOUR CHILDREN AND THE NEXT GENERATION IF WE KEEP IT SAFE FROM ANY FORM OF VANDALISM, ITS GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT WILL ALSO CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

AS CAN BE SEEN, THE COLLEGE IS ALREADY ENGAGED IN PRODUCTION OF POULTRY AND PIGS, THE COLLEGE ALSO CULTIVATED A GOOD CROP OF MAIZE AND SOYABENAS. PRINCIPAL ZCA-MONZE AND YOUR STAFF THIS IS COMMENDABLE, KEEP IT UP AND ENSURE THAT THIS COLLEGE STARTS OFF ON A PRODUCTIVE NOTE. WITH THE GOOD WORK ALREADY STARTED HERE I AM ASSURING YOU OF FULL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT.

THROUGH THE DIRECTOR- HUMAN RESOURCE AND ADMINISTRATION, I WISH TO INSTRUCT THAT THE PROCESS OF FORMALISING THE STRUCTURE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS COLLEGE TO ALLOW GOVERNMENT DEPLOY STAFF TO WORK ON FULL TIME BASIS AT THIS INSTITUTION.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

IN CONCLUSION MAY I ONCE MORE THANK MRS. TON KOSTENKORENROMP AND THE GIVE THE CHILDREN OF MPONGWE A FUTURE-NETHERLANDS FOR THIS WONDERFUL GIFT TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF MPONGWE.

WE RECEIVE IT WHOLE-HEARTEDLY AND THANK YOU VERY MUCH.