



**STATEMENT BY HON DR. O. M. MPOFU: MINISTER OF
MACRO-ECONOMIC PLANNING AND INVESTMENT
PROMOTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE
AT
THE 2017 HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM: VOLUNTARY
NATIONAL REVIEW PROCESS
UN, NEW YORK.**

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President of ECOSOC, H.E. Ambassador Frederick Shava,

Honourable Ministers here present,

Excellencies,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

I wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the President of the United Nations' Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), H.E. Ambassador Frederick Shava, for affording us the opportunity to present our Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Voluntary National Review Report.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, Zimbabwe is fully committed to the implementation of the Global Sustainable Development Agenda 2030. Reflecting this

commitment, Zimbabwe volunteered to undertake a voluntary national review of SDGs implementation in 2017, along with other 43 countries.

To us in Zimbabwe, SDGs represent a core constitutional value and an overall strategic development imperative. The Bill of Rights in our Constitution incorporates justiciable rights which are essential in the implementation of SDGs such as: rights to freedom of profession, trade or occupation, agricultural land, property, education, health care, food security, clean water, marriage, culture and environmental rights.

Since their adoption, SDGs have been integrated and mainstreamed into our national development plan the Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Socio-Economic Transformation (ZimAsset) as well as the Interim Poverty

Reduction Strategy (IPRSP) which we launched in September 2016 for ease of implementation. The three dimensions of sustainable development have been integrated into our national priorities.

It is our firm belief that participating in the 2017 VNR will enable us learn the good policies and practices that other Member States have come up with which we can also adopt in our country to improve implementation.

The process of VNR in Zimbabwe involved extensive consultations with Government ministries, Parastatals, the Private Sector, Development Partners, UN organizations, Civil Society, Women Groups, the Youths, the People with Disabilities, the Academia, Parliamentarians, Faith Based Organizations and Local Authorities, reflecting the multi-

stakeholder approach that we adopted in the implementation of this Agenda.

As part of preparation for implementation, appropriate institutional structures have been put in place. We selected the Targets and Indicators that we will track over the implementation period to 2030. The year 2015 was adopted as the baseline year to measure our progress in terms of implementation and a monitoring was produced.

Coordination of the Agenda is being led by the Ministry of Macro-Economic Planning and Investment Promotion under the guidance and supervision of the Office of the President and Cabinet.

Recognizing the need for partnerships as being key in the implementation of the Agenda, and noting the role that the

UN system plays in the global development process, Government and the UN Agencies established the Zimbabwe UN Development Assistance Framework (ZUNDAF). The ZUNDAF (2016-2020) program is supporting national development efforts in six result areas that are aligned to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The areas of collaboration with the UN are in: Social Services and Protection; Poverty Reduction and Value Addition; Food and Nutrition; Gender Equality; HIV and AIDS; and Public Administration and Governance.

Sustainable development is consistent with Zimbabwe's development vision and is at the core of the nation's priorities.

The country's development plan the ZIMASSET is anchored on four main national priorities which are: Food Security and Nutrition; Social Services and Poverty Eradication; Infrastructure and Utilities; and Value Addition and Beneficiation. These national priorities are underpinned by Fiscal Reform Measures; Public Administration, Governance and Performance Management; and Aid Coordination.

Furthermore, our national priorities are informed by the African Union Vision, Agenda 2063 and the Southern African Development Community's (SADC) Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) 2015-2020 as well as SADC's Industrialization Strategy 2015-2063.

Poverty eradication is at the center of all our initiatives and our Government will work to ensure that the national

budget is fully aligned to the SDGs so that resources are allocated to the identified priorities.

Ladies and gentlemen, with these few remarks may I now give my Director for Planning and Coordination, Mr. Grasio Nyaguse, the opportunity to give a summary presentation of Zimbabwe's Voluntary National Review Report.

I thank you