

**SPEECH MADE BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF JUSTICE
MR. GIVEN LUBINDA, MP, AT THE HANDOVER CEREMONY OF
40 STENOTYPE MACHINES AND 40 LAPTOPS, ON 30TH
NOVEMBER, 2016 AT RADISON BLUE**

**THE CHIEF JUSTICE - HONOURABLE JUSTICE IRENE
MAMBILIMA,**

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE HEAD OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
DELEGATION LEADER - AMBASSADOR ALESSANDRO
ALESSANDRO MARIAN,**

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE GERMANY AMBASSADOR - MR ACHIM
BURKART,**

**THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS - MRS LILIAN
SIYUNYI, SC,**

**THE PERMANENT SECRETARY (LD) - MRS PATRICIA JERE
(CHAIRPERSON OF THE PLEED STEERING COMMITTEE),**

**THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR FOR JUDICIARY - MS NALISHEBO
IMATAA,**

**THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE - MR KAKOMA
KANGANJA,**

**THE COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF ZAMBIA CORRECTIONAL
SERVICES – MR. PERCY CHATO,
THE LEGAL AID BOARD DIRECTOR – MR ANDERSON NGULUBE,
ALL COOPERATING PARTNERS PRESENT,
SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS,
MEMBERS OF THE PRESS,
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.**

IT IS WITH GREAT HONOUR AND PLEASURE THAT I STAND HERE
TO WITNESS, TOGETHER WITH THE CHIEF JUSTICE, THE
HANDOVER CEREMONY OF LUMINEX STENOGRAPHY MACHINES TO
THE JUDICIARY, WHICH ARE AIMED AT IMPROVING EFFICIENCY
IN THE DISPENSATION OF JUSTICE.

IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT THIS IS HAPPENING AT A
TIME WHEN THE JUDICIARY IS FACING VERY HIGH LEVELS OF
CASE BACK-LOG THAT REQUIRE A NUMBER OF IMMEDIATE AND
LONG TERM INTERVENTIONS.

MY GOVERNMENT IS ALSO AWARE OF HIGH LEVELS OF OVERCROWDING IN OUR PRISONS WHICH IS CAUSED BY A LARGE NUMBER OF REMANDEES, AMONG MANY OTHER FACTORS. I AM FURTHER AWARE OF SOME INMATES WHOSE CASES ARE PENDING JUDGEMENTS IN OUR PRISONS DUE TO A NUMBER OF REASONS.

MY GOVERNMENT ATTACHES A LOT OF ATTENTION TO MITIGATE SUCH PROBLEMS IN THE JUSTICE SECTOR. IT IS FOR THIS REASON THAT MY GOVERNMENT SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION TO SUPPORT MECHANISMS, SUCH AS THESE, WHICH CAN HELP TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY IN THE JUSTICE SECTOR.

THIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE PROGRAMME FOR LEGAL EMPOWERMENT AND ENHANCED JUSTICE DELIVERY (PLEED) WAS LAUNCHED IN 2015 TO IMPROVE JUSTICE DELIVERY FOR ALL, AND ENHANCE RESPECT FOR PROTECTION AND FULFILMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

THIS IS BECAUSE THE FUNCTIONING OF AN EFFICIENT, FAIR AND ACCESSIBLE JUSTICE SYSTEM IS THE FOUNDATION OF EVERY DEMOCRATIC STATE.

I THEREFORE ENCOURAGE OTHER INSTITUTIONS IN THE JUSTICE SECTOR TO ALSO SCALE UP THEIR INVESTMENT IN MODERN TECHNOLOGIES SO THAT THE JUSTICE SYSTEM CAN OPERATE EFFICIENTLY.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND DISTINGUISHED EXCELLENCIES, AS I CONCLUDE, I WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO COMMEND THE JUDICIARY AND THE PLEED STEERING COMMITTEE, FOR IDENTIFYING THE NEED FOR LUMINEX STENOTYPES IN THE JUDICIARY. THIS EQUIPMENT (WORTH K3,200,000) WILL GREATLY IMPROVE EFFICIENCY IN THE DELIVERY OF JUSTICE IN THE JUDICIARY.

I ALSO WISH TO THANK THE EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION (EUD) AND THE GERMANY GOVERNMENT FOR FACILITATING AND SUPPORTING THIS ASSIGNMENT THROUGH THE PLEED

PROJECT. MY GOVERNMENT IS OPEN AND WILLING TO
CONTINUE WORKING WITH YOU IN THE JUSTICE SECTOR.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU ALL.

I NOW WANT TO TAKE THIS RARE AND GRACIOUS OPPORTUNITY
TO CALL UPON THE CHIEF JUSTICE TO MAKE HER STATEMENT.