



## **WELCOME REMARKS**

**BY MEFMI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,**

**DR. CALEB M. FUNDANGA**

**OCCASION: GRADUATION & ACCREDITAION  
CEREMONY**

**DATE: FRIDAY 24 JULY 2015**

**TIME: 14:30 HOURS**

**VENUE: CRESTA LODGE, HARARE,  
ZIMBABWE**

- Our Guest of Honour, Dr. Charity L. Dhliwayo, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe
- Your Excellences, Ambassadors here present
- Our Cooperating Partners (Sweden, Norway, African Capacity Building Foundation)
- Distinguished Panellists
- MEFMI Programme Directors
- MEFMI Staff
- Candidate and Graduate Fellows
- Ladies and Gentlemen

It is with great pleasure and honour that, on behalf of MEFMI, I extend a very warm welcome to you all at this very important occasion on the Institute's calendar.

Once again I also extend a special welcome to Harare and indeed to Zimbabwe to those that are not resident here. I am sure in the period that you have been here, you have found Harare to be a warm second home in spite of your short visit.

For some of you, the last few days have been very tiring as you went through the rigorous motions of your presentations. We are fully aware that the MEFMI Fellows Development Programme is very intensive and that aspect is unavoidable as we want to bring best out of you to be amongst the experts that shape the economic landscape of our region.

Dr. Dhliwayo, ladies and gentlemen, I am greatly honoured and pleased to inform you that 12 Candidate Fellows as well as 10 Graduate Fellows have successfully fulfilled the requirements for graduation and accreditation respectively. They will be presented with certificates shortly.

This will bring the total number of MEFMI Graduate Fellows to 65 and that of Accredited Fellows, to 50.

Candidate Fellows undergo training on the Programme for a period of 18 months. During this period, the

Fellows are oriented, trained in research skills, report writing, facilitation and consulting skills, mentored by experts, and also attached to reputable institutions within the region. The Fellows are ultimately expected to produce a Technical Paper which adds value, not only to the body of knowledge, but the region and client institutions.

Candidate Fellows who obtain the needed pass mark of 70% and above are enrolled onto the apprenticeship phase which lasts an average period of one year.

Apprenticeship involves Fellows participating in training programmes as resource persons, participating as experts on in-country missions, attending advanced courses, and ultimately writing a discussion paper for Accreditation.

On the other hand, the Accredited Fellows have more responsibilities as over and above being resource persons

and participating as experts on in- country missions they also conduct training and undertake country missions too.

The pinnacle of the Fellows Programme is the MEFMI Regional Consultant. This title is awarded to Accredited Fellows after three (3) continuous years of service with positive appraisal. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank the panellists who have honoured us by accepting to undertake the assessment exercises in spite of their busy schedules. We greatly appreciate their commitment and their invaluable knowledge and skills as technical partners, who continuously ensure that the quality of MEFMI's capacity building endeavours is maintained.

Allow me therefore, on behalf of the MEFMI Secretariat and indeed on my own behalf, to thank you for accepting the Secretariat's invitation to come and witness one of the significant outputs of the work that you have been involved in over the week. Let me assure you of MEFMI's commitment in pursuing its objectives and

efforts of building sustainable capacity in the region as affirmed by its leadership.

Your Excellences

Cooperating Partners

MEFMI Staff

Panellists

Candidate and Graduate Fellows

Ladies and Gentlemen

Please accept my warm welcome to you all to this event.

Allow me now to kindly invite Dr. Dhliwayo, the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe to officially open this event.

I thank you.

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