



Remarks by Ms Janet Rogan, UN Resident Coordinator
Launch of the 7th National Development Plan Cluster Advisory Groups
Mulungushi Conference Centre, Lusaka
Tuesday 22 August, 2017

Secretary to the Cabinet

Permanent Secretaries and senior government officials

Your Excellencies, Ambassadors and High Commissioners,

Heads of UN Agencies, International Organisations,

Civil society organisations, faith-based organisations, youth representatives,

Private sector,

Media,

Distinguished guests,

I am delighted to be here today representing the whole UN System in Zambia for the launch of the 7th National Development Plan (7NDP) Cluster Advisory Groups (CAGs). As Zambia's global development partner, the UN has supported the development of the 7NDP and the new structures and the new ways of working that will be needed for its implementation. This is the first broad-based discussion of how the 7NDP is going to be implemented and we are starting at the national

level. It will cascade down to the provincial and the district levels. My job today is to set this in the global context.

Volume 1 of the 7NDP set an innovative, ambitious, transformative strategic direction for Zambia. It fundamentally responds to the needs of the people in this country and promises to start to transform all the inequalities they suffer, through diversifying the economy; upgrading tourism; modernising agriculture; expanding the scope of mining beyond the mainstay of copper; diversifying energy production. And investing in improving the people themselves - their education, health, good nutrition and clean water, their lives in sustainable well-planned rural and urban communities.

Very good. But how will all that be done? Today we will be looking at Volume 2 - the Implementation Plan - through the mechanisms set up to implement it, the **five Cluster Advisory Groups**. These Cluster Advisory Groups are cross-cutting and multi-sectoral. They are meant to achieve complex outcomes, aligned with the global Sustainable Development Goals, AU Agenda 2063, Sendai Disaster Risk Reduction, and Rio+/Paris and other climate change agreements - all in line with the national priorities of people in Zambia.

The global sustainable development agenda recognises that no government can deliver the complexity of the SDGs alone, and calls for a new concept of partnership that includes: the public sector and the private sector, the UN, the international financial institutions, bilateral partners investing their overseas development assistance, civil society, academia, communities.

The Cluster Advisory Group structure fully reflects this new global concept of **partnership**. It is a new way of working, breaking silos, multi-sectoral, reaching right down into communities for their participation, innovating to secure new sources of financing while improving domestic revenues. It is complex. It takes courage to face complexity - from all of us, And it will need both flexibility and determination in order to transform our attitudes and ways of working to make this succeed together.

I said at the launch of Volume 1 - the Strategic Vision - two months ago that the process underway in Zambia to transform national development through the SDGs and the other goals is of very high quality, and indeed a best practice globally. You can see this through the way the Clusters are set up. Zambia's 7NDP takes a human rights-based approach. This means that it puts the people first and looks at how to deliver access to rights - including civil and political rights, as well as economic, social, cultural, special and climate-related rights. All three branches of government - executive, legislature and judiciary - along with all the others partners here today as members of the CAGs, bear the duty to work together on behalf of the people to provide and enhance access to these rights. And in addition, the Plan (7NDP) also looks at how to strengthen the people themselves so that they better understand their rights and how to demand and access them.

The five Clusters of the 7NDP guide this approach. And it is up to all of us to keep that dual top-down and bottom-up approach in the forefront of our minds as we design our investments and interventions. We must listen to the people and their representatives; we must make space for them, we must hear them, and enable

their priorities to come through. The 5 Clusters will help us make sure that we Leave No-one Behind.

Cluster 1 looks at Economic Diversification and Job Creation. It speaks to SDGs 1 (*End Poverty in all its forms everywhere*); 5 (*Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*); 7 (*Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all*); 8 (*promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all*); 9 (*build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation*); 11 (*make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable*); 12 (*ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns*).

Cluster 2 seeks to reduce Poverty and Vulnerability. This is about Leaving Noone Behind and starting with those furthest behind first. It looks at social protection, pension reforms, social cash transfers - aiming both to protect and, where possible, to help people to graduate from needing that help. It speaks to all the same SDGs as Cluster 1, but particularly SDGs 1 (*End Poverty in all its forms everywhere*); 5 (*Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*).

Cluster 3 seeks to reduce developmental inequalities. This Cluster looks specifically at Income Inequality, Gender Inequality, the rural-urban divide and the urban-peri-urban economy. It also looks at the impacts of environmental degradation and climate change (SDGs 13 (*Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*) and 15 (*Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and*

halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss)). This is really the Leave No-one Behind Cluster.

Cluster 4 is about Enhancing Human Development - it is about access to services - SDGs **1** (*End poverty in all its forms everywhere*); **2** (*End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture*); **3** (*Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages*); **4** (*Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all*); **5** (*Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls*); **6** (*Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all*).

Cluster 5 aims to create a Conducive Governance Environment - governance and rights. It goes to two SDGs that have not been much talked about. First - SDG **17** (*Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development*). This addresses data and accountability. How do we know who are the furthest left behind and where they live? How can we tell whether an intervention is having the desired effect? How do we prevent misappropriation or simple waste of invested resources? How do we together create an investment environment that is conducive for domestic and international investment?

And second, it goes to **SDG 16** (*Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels*) - peace and security for rights-based development. Let us remind ourselves that access to justice is not only an issue of institutions. Justice is the administration of the law. The law is the

mechanism we use in every society to define our rights and the necessary limitations to them to enable us to live together in peace and harmony. This is the cluster that will support the other clusters in the provision of economic, social, cultural, special and climate change rights. And this is the Cluster that will bring about transformation of the institutions that deal with civil and political rights. This is the Cluster that will ensure that Zambia as a nation can address issues that marred the electoral processes last year, which allowed space for polarisation and division to arise, threatening Zambia's long-standing role as a beacon of stability and democracy. As UN Resident Coordinator in Zambia, I will ensure UN System support for this process.

Our job today and tomorrow is to ensure that we truly understand these new structures and mechanisms and these new mandates for transformation. Very hard work and strong focus is going to be needed from all of us to guide these processes. This is a question of **leadership** and more: rights-based transformation needs **inclusive leadership** - we will be trying to produce these transformations through others, many others - from the public sector, from the private sector, from the UN, from the international financial institutions, from bilateral governments, from civil society, from faith-based organisations, and from chiefs and traditional leaders and their communities. **This 7NDP is the national agenda and its five clusters cover all the interests of the nation including the economic, human development, inequality, vulnerability, and rights - all rights.** This is the basis for transformation through peaceful, respectful, inclusive national dialogue and hard work.

Thank you.