

**SPEECH BY THE PERMANENT SECRETARY  
IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND CHILD  
CARE**

**HARARE INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S  
INUAGURAL GRADUATION CEREMONY, 22  
OCTOBER 2022**

**VENUE: MONOMATAPA (CROWN PLAZA)  
HOTEL, HARARE, ZIMBABWE.**

The principal- Harare Institute of Public health,  
Dr Amos Marume,

The Registrar-Harare Institute of Public Health,  
Dr Isaac Mutingwende,

Lecturers and other members of staff

Our honoured graduands, parents and  
guardians,

And all distinguished guests, friends, ladies and  
gentlemen,

May I firstly take this opportunity on behalf of the  
Government of Zimbabwe to welcome all. In  
particular representatives of other tertiary  
institutions, government departments and  
captains of in the healthcare industry here  
present.

In addition, Harare Institute of Public Health  
members of staff who have played an integral  
part in helping and supporting the training  
programmes, delivered graduands, their families

and friends, who have all been so vital in supporting them through their journey.

Graduands here before me, will today receive recognition of their commitment and achievements. They will leave formally recognised as technically and professionally skilled individuals, and I am very proud to be witnessing this ceremony and what makes this ceremony unique is that, the graduands are the pioneers, the first group of Harare Institute of Public Health graduates.

Naturally, this means that I should mention some important points forming the basis of government of Zimbabwe's commitments mainly focusing on improving services in our health systems. However, I would rather say this is a day of celebration for those of you who have obtained this unique qualification - National Certificate in Pharmacy Assistant.

I want to emphasise that, I am here today to reinforce Ministry of Health and Child Care's

commitment to the provision of proper, accredited and recognised professional training in the health sector, as exemplified in our National Health Policy.

As, I was reflecting - I took notice that the Country's Health Sector Strategic focus is guided by the overall Vision 2030 that seeks to transform Zimbabwe into a middle-income economy by 2030 and the National Development Strategy 1 (NDS) 2021-2025, which identifies health as being central to human happiness and well-being making. The vision is also to ensure the highest possible level of health and quality of life for all citizens of Zimbabwe. To achieve these objectives provision of training and capacity building is important, hence fourth Government of Zimbabwe in all its efforts remains committed toward supporting institutions of higher learning to attaining this vision.

To this end, the Ministry of Health and Child Care would like to take this opportunity to applaud Harare Institute of Public Health in taking part in line with the National Health Strategy (2021-25) and the National Development Strategy 1 to address skills and capacity building in the country's health sector. Such efforts by our local institutions of higher learning as displayed by institutions such as HIPH and others are instrumental in order facilitate continuous professional improvements in provision of quality health delivery.

I am, therefore, proud to stand here today to witness the results of such training and investment in people who are at the very core of health services. My Ministry is equally humbled to be part of this ceremony.

To our grandaunts, your journey has just begun- You will work with patients every day and help with their prescriptions as part of a much larger

healthcare team. You will also answer their questions.

We expect you to contribute to the provision of pharmacy services and the achievement of universal health coverage, assisting pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in both public and private sectors. Be professional, kind, courteous, humble, diligent and respectful in your duties. I wish you all the very best in your future endeavours.

CONGRATULATIONS,                      MAKOROKOTO,  
AMHLOPE.