

Statement by
H.E. Mr Gilles Hervio
Ambassador / Head of Delegation of the European Union
to Zambia and Representative to COMESA

at the Signing Ceremony for the Award of Grants to
Non State Actors and Local Authorities

Tuesday 5th February 2013
Taj Pamodzi Hotel

Honourable Joseph Katema, Minister of Community Development Mother and Child Health

Honourable John Katena, Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing

Honourable Fredson K. Yamba, Secretary to the Treasury

Ambassadors and Representatives of the EU member States

Representatives of the Local Authorities

Representatives of the Civil Society

Representatives of the Media

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to welcome you today to this signing ceremony of the grants awarded by the Delegation of the European Union to Local Authorities and Non State Actors operating in Zambia.

The most important part of our support to Zambia is channelled through the European Development Fund and is co-managed by the government. This is why usually these signing ceremonies are done with the ST, NAO of the European Development Fund. I thank you very much, Sir, for your presence here today.

Usually our main partner in the support provided by EU is the government through its various Ministries. This is not the case today. However, the two Ministries of Local Government and Housing and of Community Development, Mother and Child Health are, of course, extremely interested in what we are supporting within their field of competence. Today's ceremony will allow them to have an understanding of the type of support we are giving to Non State Actors and Local Authorities through the signing of grants. Minister, I thank you for your presence today.

Today we will sign 12 grant contracts with Non State Actors and with Local Authorities for a total amount of 7.6 million euro (approximately 50 million ZMW) financed by the budget of the EU, which means additional to the EDF.

These are programmes decided by the European Parliament, that address specific issues, such as human rights and democracy, environment, civil society, food security. Most of the time, as it is like case today, this type of support is provided after competition through Call for proposals.

The organisations which receive today a grant have been selected under two calls for Proposals launched early 2012 by the Delegation of the European Union in Zambia. These calls for proposals aimed explicitly at strengthening the role and the capacities of Non State Actors and Local Authorities in advocacy and service delivery, as a step towards a more equitable, open and democratic society.

The Calls for Proposals were very competitive as 190 organisations applied. In the end, 8 Non State Actors and 4 Local Authorities, which are present here today, have been selected.

The selection procedure is based on quality assessment of the proposals. Those that score highest are the ones selected for the award of grants.

The EU Delegation received 152 concept notes from Non State Actors of which 35 focused on health, 59 on sustainable livelihood, 30 on education and 28 corporate social responsibilities. These were the priority areas indicated in the guidelines of the Call for Proposals` for Non State Actors.

Of the 8 successful ones, 2 will implement projects on sustainable livelihood, 3 on education 2 on health and 1 on corporate social responsibility.

From the Local Authorities the EU Delegation received 38 concept notes of which 20 on water and sanitation and waste management, 12 on governance issues, 6 on preventive health. Of the 4 successful ones, which also went through a very strict selection procedure, 3 will implement projects in the area of water and sanitation and waste management and 1 on preventive health. Unfortunately, none on governance.

I would like to congratulate these organisations for being successful in the demanding selection process.

I am happy with the diversity of proposals we received and pleased with the quality and the geographical and thematic diversity of the projects which have been selected.

These calls for proposal were launched in 2012. I am happy to be able to announce that, later this year, the EU Delegation in Zambia will launch two new Calls for Proposals, one for Non State Actors and one for Local

Authorities with an approximate amount of 3 million euro and 800,000 euro respectively. This will hopefully comfort the 178 organisations that unfortunately didn't succeed to reach the final step of the evaluation.

If you allow me, I would now like to invite you happy winners to briefly introduce your projects before I invite you to sign your grant contracts.

Thank you for your attention