



Opening Remarks

Reviewers Training Workshop

31 October 2014

Dear Prof Zimba, Facilitator

Dear distinguished participants,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of our CEO, it gives me a great pleasure to welcome all of you to the Reviewers Training Workshop.

A reviewer plays a significant role in the evaluation process of the NCRST grant management process. We depend on our team of reviewers to help us assess the quality, scientific validity, authenticity, innovativeness and usefulness of the research proposals we receive during each research calls.

The overall goal of the Reviewers Training Workshop is to upgrade effective knowledge and skills to better streamline the NCRST evaluation process. One of key activities of the training will focus on the guidelines on reviewing the quality of research project proposals, review NCRST current guidelines for reviewers, as well as reviewers' incentives. The NCRST appreciates the efforts and commitment that reviewers dedicate to evaluate research proposals and in doing so they need to be rewarded accordingly.

Ladies and Gentleman,

This workshop has been designed to be practical with exercises to provide skills, encourage participation and exchange information. Let me take this opportunity to thank Dr Chinsembu and Dr Heike Theophilus who gave permission to have their research project proposals used as samples for the reviewing exercise during this training.

Finally, I sincerely hope that the discussions in the workshop and the information shared can be applied effectively in your role as reviewers. With these few remarks, I thank you for listening to me and declare the training workshop officially opened. May you have a productive and successful training workshop.