

**REMARKS BY THE ACTING SECRETARY
FOR HEALTH MRS CHIMWEMWE G.
BANDA AT THE LAUNCH OF THE GLOBAL
NETWORK TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF
CARE FOR MOTHERS, NEWBORN AND
CHILDREN**

- Minister of Health Hon Dr Peter Kumpalume MP
- The Uganda State Minister of Health
- The first wave countries in the Global Network for Improving Quality of Care
- UN Country coordinator, Mia Seppo
- WHO Country Representative Dr Eugene Nyarko

- UNICEF Country Representative
- Directors and Deputy Directors in the Ministry of Health and other government officials here present
- Development Partners
- Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen

It is my pleasure and honour to welcome you Honourable Minister and all distinguished guests to this event here at Bingu International Conference Centre in Lilongwe. We welcome you at this historical event in the health sector when we are launching the Global Network to improve Quality of Care for mothers, newborn and children. Takulandirani ndi manja awiri (You are very welcome)

Hon. Minister, my humble duty at this moment is to ask you to address the delegates who have come from all over the regions of the world, but before I do that allow me to make few remarks.

Hon. Minister Ladies and Gentlemen, as you are aware, countries recognize the need that pregnant women, newborn and children receive quality care. It is for this reason that huge investments are made in improving access to health

care. It is encouraging, Hon Minister, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, that countries have made tremendous improvements in improving access especially during era of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGS). However, mortality related to child bearing is still high. It is still sad to note that many women and children die during child birth, neonatal mortality is alarming and we can not afford to remain silent. There is a missing link between access to health services and best outcomes that we all aim for. Improving quality of care must be the

focus of the health systems during the implementation of Universal Health Coverage for all countries.

Strategies should be implemented to improve the quality of care across all levels of the health system so that mothers should not die, but make childbirth a happy and memorable occasion for families.

If we can invest in anything today, let's invest in improving the Quality of Care. Quality is everyone's responsibility and as countries, we should work to make it

as a pillar in the National Health Strategic plans.

Hon Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, this Global network to improve the Quality of Care for mothers, new born and children will be a catalyst for building resilient health systems across the world. It will provide a platform for ensuring that the quality improvement activities become an integral part of health care delivery that is in line with

new developments and global best practices.

At this juncture, Hon Minister, I ask you to address the people that are here with us to celebrate the launch of this great network for the first wave countries.

Thank you very much Hon Minister.

**REMARKS BY THE ACTING SECRETARY
FOR HEALTH MRS CHIMWEMWE BANDA
AT THE COCKTAIL RECEPTION TO
CELEBRATE THE LAUNCH OF THE GLOBAL**

NETWORK TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF CARE.

- **Hon Minister of Health Dr Peter Kumpalume, MP**
- **Uganda State Minister of Health**

- **UN Country coordinator, Mia Seppo**
- **All delegates to the launch of Global Network to improve Quality of Care**
- **Directors and Deputy Directors in the Ministry of Health**
- **Our Development Partners**
- **Distinguished ladies and gentlemen**

It is with great pleasure once again to stand before you this evening.

Hon. Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen, I know we are here after the launch of the Global Network to improve Quality of Care for mothers, newborns and

children to celebrate, network and share best practices. My humble duty this evening is to ask you, Hon Minister to address the gathering here, but before I do that I just want to say a few remarks.

The Malawi Ministry of Health is very committed to improving Quality of Care in Malawi especially that of mothers, newborns and children. We have put leadership, governance, accountability and coordination as well as utilization of quality data in decision making as key priority areas in improving the quality of care. As we interact let us share our best practices, learn from what other countries are doing to prevent complications and deaths from

pregnancies, childbirth and also death of newborns. Above everything, I want you to relax, enjoy and network. Please, take time to dance if you can and enjoy our traditional and cultural dances.

Let me thank the Partnership for Maternal, New born and Child Health (PMNCH) for supporting this reception with financial resources.

Hon. Minister, Ladies and Gentlemen it is my pleasure to humbly ask you to address the gathering this evening.

Thank you Hon Minister.

